



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2023

No. 19

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CAPTAIN KIRK MITCHELL

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Fire Captain Kirk Mitchell and to thank him for his service to our country and to our community.

From becoming a volunteer firefighter at the age of 16 to joining the United States Marine Corps at the age of 18, Kirk Mitchell set out early in life to care for those in need of help and to protect those who could not protect themselves.

Kirk would go on to work as an EMT, a public safety instructor, and an emergency management officer.

His extensive work took him from California to Puerto Rico to aid those who had been affected by wildfires and floods.

Throughout all of his work, Captain Mitchell has maintained a connection with Blair County, Pennsylvania, serving as a steadfast member of the Altoona Fire Department.

Kirk's commitment to protecting lives and supporting his fellow fire-

fighters has been a hallmark of his wonderful career.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Kirk every continued success.

SOCIALIST POLICIES HAVE NO PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it was 34 years ago that the Iron Curtain finally fell, revealing to the world the horrible truths of socialism and providing a stark contrast between the United States and the enemies who wish to do us harm.

In the Capitol rotunda, we keep a warning of the dangers of socialism. A piece of the Berlin Wall is embedded in the base of the statue of President Ronald Reagan who championed the work of ending socialism around the world.

From Venezuela to the Soviet Union, from Fidel Castro in Cuba to Kim Jong-un in North Korea, every attempt to build a socialist or communist society has only led to ruin.

Socialism is a tyranny that we can no longer afford to ignore.

As this administration continues to pick winners and losers in our economy and as President Biden continues to cancel debts for liberal elites on the backs of working Americans, it is time for us to clearly state that socialist policies have no place in our democracy. It is time for our country to return to the ideals of our Founding Fathers.

Our country was built on the belief that we are all created with unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These rights can only be fulfilled if we live in a Nation, a Nation that is truly free. We must condemn socialism in all of its forms.

It was President Reagan who once said: "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for and protected."

We cannot afford to let our country be governed by socialist policies. We must protect our freedoms, and we must protect our liberties at all costs.

A REAL CASE OF UNFAIRNESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to remember and honor twin sisters Katrina and Leslie. Their story is one of tragedy, as they both are resting with our maker in heaven. Their memories have and shall continue to be shared with their loved ones.

Katrina and Leslie were born with disabilities. As they were growing up, they required a caretaker to address their basic needs.

These twins were loveable and stole the hearts of those they met. Katrina and Leslie were also emotionally strong. They wanted to be raised like other kids but knew that their conditions were permanent and they wouldn't be able to participate in sports, attend a prom, or get a job.

They accepted the reality of their life, but they knew they had each other, and they had a loving family. The two were living in the State of Pennsylvania and received Supplemental Security Income, SSI, benefits that helped their caretaker purchase necessities.

Unfortunately, their caretaker, who was their mother, passed away unexpectedly. Leslie and Katrina once again found themselves enduring another unbearable hardship. Because of their conditions and the undertaking it would require to care for not one but two disabled individuals, the sisters were separated.

Leslie stayed in the State of Pennsylvania and continued to receive SSI benefits. Katrina was taken in by her

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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mom's sister, who is married to my childhood friend, Dr. John Fegurgur. The couple brought her to Guam, and within 30 days of leaving Pennsylvania, Katrina lost her SSI benefits.

Why, you may ask?

Because of a Federal inequity which denies American citizens who reside in most territories the rights to secure SSI benefits. This Federal law strips away the financial benefits from American citizens with disabilities who relocate from a State to Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, or Puerto Rico.

We need to change this inequity. Why are U.S. citizens who reside in U.S. territories denied benefits they can attain if they were residing in a State?

This is a real case of unfairness.

Did you know that Guam has among the highest per capita numbers of enlisted members in the United States armed services throughout the Nation?

Yes, we, too, are proud Americans.

There have been lawsuits to fix this inequity, and the courts have simply ruled that SSI benefits were created by Congress and, hence, can be changed by Congress. So let's change it and do what is right.

Katrina and Leslie are both no longer with us in the world today. In Leslie's final days, she said she sadly wouldn't be able to witness when this wrong would be made right.

While neither sister may be here, let us fix this inequity in their names and the names of many others who have been denied this benefit just because they reside in a U.S. territory.

REGULAR ORDER HAS RETURNED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, thanks to House Republicans, regular order has been restored in the people's House.

From expedited votes to open, substantive debate on the merits of legislation that now take place on this very floor, the American people are seeing meaningful progress occur in real time, and it is so wonderful to see people in the gallery and in the halls of this Capitol.

One-party rule in Washington had corrupted the legislative process for 2 years, and it failed every single American.

Mr. Speaker, as part of House Republicans' Commitment to America, we highlighted our plan to ensure a government that is accountable.

Every day, we are acting upon that commitment and placing accountability and transparency at the feet of the American people. This is exactly what good governance is all about. Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle should take note.

ANOTHER IOWAN HEADS THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa's former Governor and Ambassador to China, Terry Branstad for being appointed as the President of the World Food Prize Foundation.

Founded by Iowa's Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, the World Food Prize Foundation aims to improve food security around the world. Each year, leaders in the agriculture industry travel to Des Moines to discuss the latest global agriculture issues and recognize individuals who have made distinguished accomplishments in the industry.

Governor Branstad played an integral role in creating the Iowa Hunger Summit during his time as Iowa's and the Nation's longest serving Governor. The Iowa Hunger Summit has been instrumental in combating food insecurity in Iowa and around the world in large part because of Governor Branstad's efforts.

I am excited to see how Governor Branstad will help the World Food Prize Foundation evolve, and I am confident that his experience and background will help the foundation further its mission to eliminate world hunger. I can think of no better fit for the job.

Congratulations, Governor Branstad.

I also wish a happy birthday to Caroline Bender. Happy birthday, Caroline.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, hear the supplications of Your people. We lay before You our greatest concerns, our innermost thoughts, and the whole of our hopes and fears. And when You hear us, forgive us for any doubt, any reluctance, and any failure to believe that You will answer.

Silence, then, all voices but Your own. May the words in our heads and our hearts be quiet. We who speak for a living, who have devoted our lives to fixing what is broken, and stepping into right wrongs are uncomfortable sitting back and waiting for Your word, listening for Your guidance.

So then when You do speak, when You make clear the direction You

would have us go, the work You have called us to do, the lives You have designed us to live, may we be open to receive Your divine direction.

With ears to hear from even the most unlikely source, and eyes to see what You reveal from the viewpoint of Your throne, and with the hearts open to the stirrings of Your Holy Spirit, may we prove worthy of Your attention and faithful in our response this day.

In Your sovereign and most gracious name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ALFORD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DONALD MEANS JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, I was grateful to attend the campaign kickoff for Donald Trump at the South Carolina State House in Columbia with the former President, Governor Henry McMaster, and Ambassador Ed McMullen.

My public service has been committed to promoting job creation with the slogan of "Joe Means Jobs." That is why I appreciate the success of Governor McMaster last year recruiting over \$10 billion in investments. This enhances South Carolina as being first

in the export of sales of both tires and passenger cars.

The triumphant policies of President Trump reducing taxes and regulations created jobs. He created record unemployment lows for African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and women. Donald means jobs.

A political consequence of the Trump and McMaster success is the super majority of Republicans in this South Carolina State House and State Senate with the most Republicans in over 150 years. Until 1961, there were no Republicans in the legislature in the 20th Century.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

CONGRATULATING THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

(Mr. ALFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor my Kansas City Chiefs for their AFC championship, and their berth in Super Bowl LVII.

Like many Missourians, I could not be prouder of the effort put forth on the field last night.

Despite having an injured Patrick Mahomes, injuries to several key players, incredible amounts of outside noise, and the referees against them the entire game, the Chiefs made short work of the "Bungles," I mean, Bengals, and sent them off to the off-season.

While I hope Eli Apple has fun in Cancun, I also hope that mayor jabroni and the rest of the Cincinnati fan base learned a valuable lesson last night: It is called Arrowhead. It is the loudest, toughest place to play in the NFL with the strongest fan base.

A special thank you to Patrick Mahomes, Harrison Butker, Travis Kelce, Chris Jones, and, of course, Joseph Ossai for all their wonderful efforts last night. We couldn't have done it without you.

And to the Philadelphia Eagles, we will see you in Arizona. Go Chiefs.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

COMMERCIAL REMOTE SENSING AMENDMENT ACT OF 2023

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 290) to provide for transparent licensing of commercial remote sensing systems, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 290

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORTS.

(a) DEADLINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 60121(c) of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking "120" and inserting "60".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 60126(a)(1)(E) of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking "120" and inserting "60".

(b) NOTIFICATIONS.—Section 60126(a)(2) of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking "section 60122; and" and inserting "paragraphs (5) and (6) of section 60122(b);".

(c) CONDITIONS.—Section 60126(a) of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(3) all terms, conditions, or restrictions placed on licensees pursuant to section 60122; and";

(d) TIERS.—Section 60126(a)(1) of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by inserting "and" at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(F) a list of all applications submitted and licenses granted in accordance therewith, listed by tier as defined in regulation, as well as the rationale for each tier categorization;".

(e) SUNSET.—Section 60126 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking "September 30, 2020" and inserting "September 30, 2030".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 290, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 290, the Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act.

I introduced this bipartisan legislation last Congress and that measure passed the House by a voice vote. I reintroduced the same bill this year, along with my colleague, the ranking member, Ms. LOFGREN. It updates the reporting requirements for NOAA's Office of Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs so that Congress can monitor how regulations are impacting the growth and improvement of the commercial remote sensing industry.

Remote sensing uses data collected from satellites to produce images of the Earth. It has become a critical resource for fields like agriculture, finance, trade, and energy.

For instance, imagery and data from commercial remote sensing allows us to improve crop production by helping farmers more efficiently apply water and fertilizer. It informs future commodity prices by actively monitoring weather and crop health.

Commercial remote sensing also improves our ability to prepare for and respond to natural disasters by informing flood plain mapping, tornado tracking, and drought monitoring, topics that are very important to my constituents in Oklahoma.

It can also be helpful in humanitarian relief efforts and monitoring treaty compliance, among other applications.

As you can see, commercial remote sensing provides us with critical information for many important applications. This technology is constantly evolving, and the industry is seeing tremendous growth.

To effectively support and manage remote sensing activities, it is critical that Congress receives timely and comprehensive reports so we can evaluate the state of the industry and how regulations are affecting this growth.

The Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act of 2015 established a reporting requirement from the Department of Commerce on the status of commercial remote sensing licensing and regulation. This requirement expired in 2020.

H.R. 290 will reinstate that reporting requirement and keep Congress informed of agency actions, their impact on licensees, and the state of the commercial remote sensing industry. These reports to Congress will give us the information we need to ensure that the U.S. remains the global leader in this important field.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 290 is a no-nonsense, bipartisan bill that will help ensure that the U.S. remains the global leader in the commercial remote sensing industry.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member LOFGREN for joining me in advancing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today also in support of H.R. 290, the Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2023.

I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this legislation, along with the chairman, and I am pleased to serve as ranking member of the committee, a new assignment for me.

It was all the way back in 1992 when Congress authorized the Secretary of Commerce to license and regulate commercial remote sensing space systems.

Commercial remote sensing is now a vibrant and growing industry. As the chairman has said, data and imagery from commercial remote sensing satellites are used widely in agriculture, disaster monitoring, energy, mapping, and national security applications. In fact, commercial remote sensing has been an important information source for fighting the devastating Western wildland fires, including those in my home State of California.

Companies from around the world are launching commercial remote sensing systems and selling the data. According to the Satellite Industries Association, globally, these services reached an estimated \$2.7 billion in revenue in 2021.

Congress needs to ensure that the United States remains at the cutting edge of this industry and that is why it is important that we have the transparency and insight we need to oversee the licensing and regulation of private remote sensing systems.

In order to accomplish this, the Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act modifies the timeline for completing licenses to conform with updated regulations. It requires additional details on licensing information to be included in reports to Congress, and it extends a sunset clause for the annual report on commercial remote sensing licenses until 2030.

As the chairman has mentioned, an identical version of this bill passed this House on suspension during the 117th Congress, and I am pleased that Chairman LUCAS and I can kick off our work this session by continuing the Science, Space, and Technology Committee's strong tradition of bipartisan work and our track record with this good bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we all support this good bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said previously, commercial remote sensing provides us with critical information related to a number of fields, like agriculture, finance, trade, energy, and more. This, in turn, allows us to be better stewards of our resources.

H.R. 290, the Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act will help us ensure that Congress receives the updates necessary to monitor industrial regulations. By updating these reporting requirements, we can ensure that the U.S. remains the global leader in an important field.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I thank the ranking member for her help in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 290—the Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2023.

This bill would provide for transparent licensing of commercial remote sensing systems and renews the requirement that the Department of Commerce send an annual report to Congress on the status of commercial remote sensing applications.

Commercial remote sensing systems can be used to improve operations in a variety of industries.

Remote sensing is crucial for agricultural production, weather forecasting, and emergency response efforts.

The Aeronautical Survey Program (ASP), the Coastal Mapping Program (CMP), and emergency response efforts all benefit from the ocean data that has been collected by using remote sensing systems.

This data enables the provision of a regularly updated national coastline for marine navigation, establishing territorial limits, and managing coastal resources.

Cities like Houston that are close to coastlines and experience frequent flooding and hurricanes greatly benefit from commercial remote sensing systems.

A study done by the Texas State Climatologist Office at Texas A&M University warned that Texans should brace themselves for more extreme weather in the coming years.

The study found that, as a direct consequence of climate change, Texas should expect the severity of hurricanes and flooding to increase through the year 2036.

In recent years, Texans have experienced the devastating effects of climate change.

On August 25, 2017, Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas, just north of the city of Corpus Christi, as a category 4 storm.

Hurricane Harvey dropped 21 trillion gallons of intense rainfall on Texas and Louisiana, most of it on the Houston Metroplex.

The volume of water that fell on Houston and other affected areas of Texas and Louisiana could fill more than 24,000 Astrodomes or supply the water for Niagara Falls for 15 days.

Hurricane Harvey caused damage to more than 204,000 homes of which 99 thousand were in Harris County.

With commercial remote sensing systems, scientists would have been able to monitor the storm prior to landfall and would have been able to collect information and data from inaccessible areas.

Remote sensing systems provide warnings to locals and prepare them for storms, saving lives and managing potential risks.

The information gathered by these remote sensing systems, such as elevation data, is utilized to create management plans for the restoration, monitoring, and maintenance of the environment and the planet.

Over the last 50 years, the number of disasters has increased by a factor of five worldwide.

With the increase in climate disasters, lawmakers need to protect the American public by passing legislation that would manage risks and save lives.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation that can save lives as we navigate our everchanging climate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 290.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COST-SHARE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2023

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 342) to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require reporting relating to certain cost-share requirements, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 342

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) REPORTING.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection and at least quarterly thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and shall make publicly available, a report on the use by the Department during the period covered by the report of the authority to reduce or eliminate cost-sharing requirements provided by subsection (b)(3) or (c)(2).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 342, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 342, the Cost-Share Accountability Act

of 2023 introduced by my friend, Representative OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 342 is a good-government bill that does exactly what it says it will: it improves accountability.

When making awards, the Department of Energy is subject to cost-share requirements for most research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities.

DOE can modify or eliminate those requirements when necessary, an authority which has been critical to supporting and developing new technologies.

This bill is very simple. It requires DOE to submit a quarterly report to Congress describing the instances where they have modified or waived those cost-share requirements. The bill also makes those reports publicly available.

H.R. 342 doesn't prevent DOE from waiving cost-share requirements. It just ensures that those decisions are made public. This transparency and accountability is important because it allows us to ensure we are making the best possible use of taxpayer resources. It is a smart, bipartisan policy.

I thank Representative OBERNOLTE and Representative FOSTER for working on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I join the chairman today in supporting H.R. 342, the Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023. I am pleased that today we are considering this bill.

Many of the clean energy technologies deployed throughout the Nation today have benefited from financial support from the Department of Energy.

The bipartisan Cost-Sharing Accountability Act of 2023 would strengthen the reporting requirements related to certain cost-sharing requirements at DOE.

Specifically, the bill would require the Secretary of Energy to report on the use of the statutory authority to reduce or eliminate cost-sharing requirements for research, for development, for demonstration, as well as commercial application activities.

As the chairman has noted, better reporting on financial assistance will help us to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being spent wisely. As mentioned, we passed a matching version of this bill under a suspension of the rules in the last Congress. It is time, we hope, for the Senate to take this bill up and pass it this year after the House passes this again.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE).

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bill, H.R. 342, the Cost-Sharing Accountability Act.

Mr. Speaker, research and development grants in the field of energy administered by the Department of Energy play a critical role in innovation and energy research in the United States. The administration and awarding of those grants is governed by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Among other things, that act requires the DOE to impose a cost share on the recipients of those grants. That cost share can be as low as 20 percent in the case of research and development grants, or as high as 50 percent in the case of commercialization and demonstration grants.

The purpose of this cost share is simple. It is to ensure that the grant recipients also have some skin in the game when it comes to ensuring the success of the grants and the projects that they are bidding on and demonstrating.

Several months ago, the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology held an oversight hearing in which we investigated the occasions on which the Department of Energy had waived those cost-sharing requirements on grants that it had awarded.

The DOE has the statutory ability to waive those cost shares under the appropriate circumstances. We wanted to make sure that that authority was being exercised judiciously.

Although we found that the DOE was appropriately waiving those cost shares under those circumstances, we were very surprised by the lack of transparency in that process and equally surprised by the difficulty with which the subcommittee had in acquiring the information about how often the DOE was waiving those cost shares.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 342, is a very simple solution to that problem. It will require the DOE to make quarterly reports to the committees of jurisdiction in both the House and the Senate on the occasions and the circumstances under which it waives cost-share requirements for the grants that it awards.

□ 1645

This will enhance Congress' ability to exercise oversight over the DOE. Equally importantly, it will impose greater transparency into this process for the parties that apply for these grants, and it will demonstrate the circumstances under which the DOE would consider waiving those cost-share requirements.

Mr. Speaker, this is basic good governance. It is an oversight bill. I hope it is something that we all on both sides of the aisle can support.

I thank my cosponsor, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER), for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H.R. 342.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE) for introducing this bill.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER), the cosponsor of this bill and last year's chair of the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 342, the Cost-Share Accountability Act.

This bill, which I co-led with its sponsor, Congressman OBERNOLTE, was born out of a joint hearing that we held last Congress, which discussed best practices for financial assistance agreements within the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy.

This bill mandates reports on the Department's use of cost-sharing practices, which require organizations receiving grants from the Department of Energy to fund a portion of the project's costs.

I am a big fan of cost-sharing agreements as a mechanism to make sure that taxpayer dollars are well spent. There are circumstances under which they may appropriately be waived, but in order for Congress to fulfill our oversight responsibilities, we must be able to access information on how those requirements are being implemented and when they are being waived.

This legislation is fundamental good governance, an important step to increase the transparency of the Department of Energy's funding practices, and I look forward to working with the Department of Energy to ensure that cost-sharing is implemented fairly and effectively and that it is supporting the Department's and Congress' priorities.

I thank Representative OBERNOLTE for his leadership on this legislation, which passed the House in a strong bipartisan vote last Congress, and also for his service as ranking member of the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight that I chaired last Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, let me close by urging everyone to support this good bill, and let's celebrate carrying on the fine tradition of bipartisan legislative action in the Science Committee. I look forward to the rest of this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 342 will create more transparency around the DOE awards and help us better oversee our investments in cutting-edge energy technologies. It is bipartisan, commonsense legislation, which is why it passed the House on suspension last year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill once again, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 342—"The Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023."

H.R. 342 requires the Department of Energy to report quarterly to Congress on the use of the department's authority to reduce or eliminate cost-sharing requirements for various research, development, and demonstration projects.

Specifically, this bill aims to establish the necessary requirements to effectively set the standards for quarterly reporting to Congress in order to ensure proper management of capital allotment between energy departments.

Mr. Speaker, The Energy Policy Act (EPAct) of 2005 (Public Law 109–58), the underlying statute of H.R. 342 which provides the background history for H.R. 342, calls for the development of grant programs, demonstration and testing initiatives, and tax incentives that promote alternative fuels and advanced vehicles production and use.

H.R. 342—"The Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023" will provide advancements towards energy innovations that will benefit both the state of energy independence of the United States as well as critical energy advancements for the future.

The Secretary of Energy has the authority to reduce or eliminate cost sharing requirements for applied research and development as necessary and appropriate.

Moreover, the Secretary may reduce cost sharing requirements for demonstration and commercial application activities as necessary and appropriate, taking into consideration any technological risk relating to the activity.

Mr. Speaker, based on the S&P Global macroeconomic model completed on January 5th, it is expected that the U.S. real GDP will grow by 0.5 percent in 2023, with economic growth returning after contraction in the first quarter of 2023.

In 2024, the estimated real GDP will grow by 1.9 percent, driven primarily by an increase in household consumption. This means that there will be relatively flat economic growth in 2023 resulting in total U.S. energy consumption falling by 0.9 percent in the forecast. However, total energy consumption then rises by 1.0 percent in 2024.

This evidence provides us a basis for making sure we have the proper standards in place for effective accounting for key departments performing various research, development, and demonstration projects.

As a senior Member of the Budget Committee, I understand the importance of providing clarity and transparency to the American people on the allocation of funds.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 342, "The Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023" so we can provide transparency to the American people while addressing the proper implementations towards efficient allotment of cost-sharing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 342.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION PREVENTION ACT OF 2023

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 500) to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial exploitation of specified adults, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 500

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. REDEMPTION OF CERTAIN SECURITIES POSTPONED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 22 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–22) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO NON-INSTITUTIONAL DIRECT AT-FUND ACCOUNTS.—

"(1) ELECTION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A registered open-end investment company and a transfer agent described under paragraph (2) may elect to comply with the requirements under paragraph (2) and subsection (i) by notifying the Commission of such election.

"(B) EFFECT OF ELECTION.—Paragraph (2) and subsection (i) shall only apply to a registered open-end investment company and a transfer agent that have made the election under subparagraph (A).

"(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In the case of a customer who is a holder of a non-institutional account held directly with a registered open-end investment company and serviced by a transfer agent (a 'direct-at-fund account'), the company and transfer agent shall—

"(A) request from such customer the name and contact information of at least one individual who—

"(i) is at the time of such request an adult; and

"(ii) may be contacted with respect to such account;

"(B) document and retain the information received pursuant to subparagraph (A); and

"(C) disclose to such customer in writing (including through electronic delivery) that such company or transfer agent may contact an individual specified pursuant to subparagraph (A) with respect to the account of such customer to—

"(i) address possible financial exploitation of such customer;

"(ii) confirm the contact information or health status of the customer; or

"(iii) identify any legal guardian, executor, trustee, or holder of a power of attorney of the customer.

"(i) REDEMPTION OF CERTAIN SECURITIES POSTPONED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (e), a registered open-end investment company or a transfer agent acting on behalf of such company may postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of any redeemable security in accordance with its terms for more than seven days after the tender of such security to such company or its agent designated for that purpose for redemption if such company or agent reasonably believes that—

"(A) the redemption is requested by a security holder who is a specified adult; and

"(B) financial exploitation has occurred, is occurring, or has been attempted with respect to such redemption.

"(2) DURATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), a registered open-end investment company or a transfer agent

acting on behalf of such company may postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of a redeemable security under paragraph (1) for a period of not more than 15 business days.

"(B) EXTENSION UPON DETERMINATION OF EXPLOITATION.—The period described in subparagraph (A) may be extended by an additional 10 business days if the registered open-end investment company or a transfer agent acting on behalf of such company—

"(i) reasonably believes that—

"(I) the redemption is requested by a security holder who is a specified adult; and

"(II) financial exploitation has occurred, is occurring, or has been attempted with respect to such redemption;

"(ii) subject to subparagraph (D), not later than 2 days after making a determination under clause (i), notifies the individuals specified by such security holder under subsection (h)(2)(A) in writing (including through electronic delivery) of the extension of the period described in subparagraph (A) under this subparagraph and the reason for such extension;

"(iii) initiates an internal review of the facts and circumstances relating to the determination under clause (i);

"(iv) holds amounts related to the delayed payment or satisfaction upon redemption of the redeemable security in a demand deposit account; and

"(v) documents and retains records related to carrying out clause (iv) and includes such records in the first required account statement of the security holder provided after the date on which the determination is made under clause (i).

"(C) EXTENSION BY GOVERNMENT.—A State regulator, administrative agency of competent jurisdiction, or court of competent jurisdiction may extend the period described in subparagraph (A).

"(D) NOTIFICATION.—

"(i) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (B)(ii) shall not apply if a registered open-end investment company or transfer agent acting on behalf of such company reasonably believes that an individual required to be notified under such subparagraph is, has been, or will subject the security holder who identified such individual under subsection (h)(2)(A) to financial exploitation.

"(ii) REASONABLE EFFORTS.—An open-end investment company or transfer agent acting on behalf of such company shall be considered in compliance with subparagraph (B)(ii) if such company or transfer agent makes a reasonable effort to contact the individuals specified by a security holder under subsection (h)(2)(A).

"(E) INTERNAL PROCEDURES.—An open-end investment company or transfer agent acting on behalf of such company shall establish procedures to carry out the requirements under this subsection, including procedures—

"(i) related to the identification and reporting of matters related to the financial exploitation of specified adults;

"(ii) to determine whether to release or reinvest delayed redemption proceeds, taking into account the facts and circumstances of each case, should the internal review under subparagraph (B)(iii) support the reasonable belief described in subparagraph (B)(i);

"(iii) identifying each employee of the company or transfer agent with authority to establish, extend, or terminate a period described in paragraph (1) or subparagraph (A);

"(iv) in the case of a transfer agent, that are reasonably designed to ensure that the employees of such transfer agent comply with this subsection; and

“(v) in the case of an open-end investment company, establishing periodic reporting requirements under which a transfer agent acting on behalf of such company shall notify such company of—

“(I) each extension under subparagraph (B) authorized by such transfer agent;

“(II) each finding by the transfer agent under subparagraph (B)(i);

“(III) each notification under subparagraph (B)(ii) carried out by such transfer agent; and

“(IV) the results of each internal review initiated by the transfer agent under subparagraph (B)(iii).

“(F) INFORMATION INCLUDED IN CERTAIN STATEMENTS.—An open-end investment company shall include in each prospectus or statement of additional information a notification that the company or transfer agent acting on behalf of such company may postpone redemption of certain securities under this subsection.

“(G) RECORD RETENTION.—An open-end investment company or transfer agent acting on behalf of such company shall—

“(i) document and retain records of—

“(I) each postponement of redemption under subparagraph (A), (B), and (C);

“(II) each finding under subparagraph (B)(i);

“(III) the name and position of each employee described in subparagraph (E)(iii);

“(IV) each notification carried out under subparagraph (B)(ii); and

“(V) the results of each internal review initiated under subparagraph (B)(iii); and

“(ii) make such records available to the Commission at the request of the Commission.

“(3) SPECIFIED ADULT DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘specified adult’ means—

“(A) an individual age 65 or older; or

“(B) an individual age 18 or older who a registered open-end investment company or a transfer agent acting on behalf of such company reasonably believes has a mental or physical impairment that renders the individual unable to protect the individual’s own interests.”.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Securities and Exchange Commission, in consultation with the entities specified in paragraph (2), shall submit to Congress a report that includes recommendations regarding the regulatory and legislative changes necessary to address the financial exploitation of security holders who are specified adults (as defined in subsection (i)(3) of section 22 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-22), as added by this section).

(2) CONSULTATION.—The entities specified in this paragraph are as follows:

(A) The Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

(B) The Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

(C) The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

(D) The North American Securities Administrators Association.

(E) The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(F) The Comptroller of the Currency.

(G) The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act, a bipartisan bill that will help combat the financial exploitation of our seniors and other vulnerable adults.

I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the new chair of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, for her work on this bill.

Financial exploitation, particularly of seniors and other vulnerable adults, is a serious and growing issue. Consider this: The number of Americans age 65 and older is projected to nearly double from 52 million in 2018 to 95 million by 2060. At the same time, the 65 and older age group’s share of the total population is predicted to rise from 16 percent to 23 percent. Right now, approximately 44 percent of households are headed by a baby boomer, and 30 percent of Silent Generation and GI Generation households own mutual funds.

As more and more investors transition into retirement, the risk of financial exploitation for older households will only increase. Right now, roughly one in five senior investors already fall prey to fraudsters, losing an estimated \$2.9 billion annually. Those are just the cases we know about. Unfortunately, there is research that shows only 1 in 44 cases of financial abuse is ever reported.

This bill provides a tool to fight against this type of elder abuse.

Some mutual fund shareholder accounts are held directly with the mutual fund and serviced by the fund’s transfer agent, otherwise known as direct-at-fund accounts. The transfer agent is typically responsible for opening and servicing the accounts, managing account records, and serving as the fund’s point of contact with those shareholders.

Under current law, when a funds transfer agent suspects financial exploitation in a direct-at-fund account, it cannot lawfully delay the disbursement or redemption proceeds while an investigation occurs. This bill would codify a 2018 Securities and Exchange Commission-issued no-action letter that permits a mutual fund and its transfer agent to delay the redemption period of a security if it is reasonably believed that a request was made by exploited seniors or other vulnerable adults.

In many cases, this work is done by financial firms using technology. That technology is widely available across financial platforms, and this is enabling that technology to flag a ques-

tion and give pause to the movement of funds, thereby protecting a senior’s accounts.

Codifying this Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letter will provide our potentially at-risk investors with the protection they need to make sure they can receive the hard-earned savings that they have built up over the years.

This is an important bill. It takes the existing practice from the Securities and Exchange Commission and makes it law, giving it a stronger force of protection for our seniors.

It is a bipartisan bill. I am very proud that this is the first bill reported out of the House Financial Services Committee and that it has bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption and support of this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023, sponsored by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Adults over the age of 65 are too often the target of financial exploitation and have become victims of financial crimes more than any other demographic.

In the annual report on elder fraud and abuse, the Department of Justice reported that, in 2020 alone, seniors suffered over \$1 billion in financial losses due to fraud.

Unlike other adults, seniors are often dependent on their savings to support them in retirement, making it much more difficult for them to recover from incidents of fraud.

Brokers and investment managers, who often stand in as the stewards of the savings of seniors, are in a unique position to protect elders from financial crimes.

In 2018, the Securities and Exchange Commission released a letter called a no-action letter stating that the Commission would not take enforcement action against the agents of an investment company, including mutual funds, if the person paused a payment or redemption based on the suspicion of financial exploitation.

This pause on cashing out the savings of a senior provides a necessary safeguard to ensure that the redemption is consistent with the will of the senior.

H.R. 500 would codify this SEC letter. It would also make two further changes to describe how a mutual fund adviser can establish the process at each fund to protect seniors.

I thank Mrs. WAGNER for working with my staff to craft the language in this bill. This is a helpful piece of legislation that will provide one more tool to market participants to protect investors and, in particular, our Nation’s retirees.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation passed with bipartisan support last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to once again

support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the chair of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act.

It is, indeed, a bipartisan bill that will help prevent seniors and other vulnerable adults from becoming victims of fraud.

I thank Chairman MCHENRY for his very strong support on this important legislation and the ranking member for working with us on this legislation.

Financial exploitation of seniors and other vulnerable adults is a serious and growing problem. Over the next 10-plus years, 10,000 Americans will turn 65 every day, with seniors making up 18 percent of the Nation's population by 2030.

As more investors age into retirement, their risk of exploitation increases. Sadly, about one in five senior investors falls prey to financial fraud, and those investors lose an estimated \$2.9 billion annually in reported cases.

□ 1700

However, according to the National Adult Protective Services Association, only 1 in 44 cases of financial abuse is ever even reported.

Right now, approximately 44 percent of households headed by a baby boomer and 30 percent of Silent Generation households own mutual funds. My bill proposes a solution to fight elder abuse in the context of mutual funds.

Since some mutual fund shareholder accounts are held directly with the mutual fund and serviced by the fund's transfer agent, or direct-at-fund accounts, as they are known, the transfer agent is typically responsible for opening and servicing the accounts, maintaining the account records, and serving as the fund's point of contact for those shareholders.

Under current law, when a fund's transfer agent suspects financial exploitation in a direct-at-fund account, it cannot lawfully delay the disbursement of redemption proceeds while an investigation occurs.

My legislation would codify both a FINRA and SEC issued no-action letter from 2018 that permits a mutual fund and its transfer agent to delay the redemption period of a security if they reasonably believe that a request was made by exploiting seniors or other vulnerable adults. It does not stop this trade from going through, it just takes a pause while they check with that senior to make sure that there has not been fraud or elder abuse anticipated.

This will provide our potentially vulnerable investors with an important layer of investor protection to help make sure that they receive the hard-earned savings that they have built up over the years.

Additionally, and importantly, my bill also requires the SEC to report to

Congress on additional potential legislative solutions for further combating financial exploitation of seniors and vulnerable adults.

Many of us have had the bittersweet experience of caring for a parent or loved one as they grow older. This legislation will give our constituents the peace of knowing that their loved ones are better protected from fraud.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER), the newest member of the House Financial Services Committee.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023. I thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Missouri, for introducing this legislation.

Too often, our offices receive desperate calls from seniors who have been exploited by scammers who coerced them into making bad or risky investments and cost them all or most of their life savings. These calls are especially heartbreaking as our seniors are the ones who have sacrificed so much to build our country into the incredible Nation that it is today.

That is why the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act codifies a process by which seniors and vulnerable adults in our country are given a tool they can use to fight back: time.

By delaying the transfer of funds and verifying that the true will of the accountholder is being exercised, we can, hopefully, prevent more of these tragic calls and circumstances from happening in the first place—as my colleague pointed out, \$2.9 billion a year in fraud perpetrated upon our seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Senate to join us in passing this commonsense legislation into law to protect our seniors and our most vulnerable residents across our country.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

H.R. 500 is a helpful piece of legislation that will support our Nation's seniors as they seek to fund their retirement.

Investment advisers and brokers want to do the right thing to stop fraud when they see it, and this bill will ensure they are able to do so.

The bill is supported by the Consumer Federation of America, the North American Securities Administrators Association, and Public Citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I said to the ranking member that I was prepared to close. We have a Member that just arrived, and I am going to allow her to have a closing statement here.

I thank the ranking member, Mr. Speaker, and her staff working with the Republican staff of the House Financial Services Committee for being able to move these first pieces of legislation. We have three bills that are on the suspension calendar this evening that are bipartisan bills. One has a primary sponsor by a Democrat, and two have primary sponsors by Republicans, but all are bipartisan. I thank the ranking member for her willingness to work across the aisle to move bipartisan legislation.

In doing this, I recall the beginning of last Congress 2 years ago, and 2 years before that, when she reached out to Republicans in the then-minority and offered us the same thing. I am grateful for that outreach 2 and 4 years ago.

I have extended the same hand to the gentlewoman from California, and she has likewise extended the same hand to me. Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful for the leadership of the ranking member and her willingness to work with us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN), a new member of the House Financial Services Committee.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act, a bill that I am proud to be a cosponsor of.

Every day, seniors and other vulnerable adults become targets of financial fraud. While not all the cases are known or discovered, about one in five senior investors in the United States are victims of financial scams. In 2021 alone, there were over 1,500 reported cases of financial fraud against Hoosier seniors. This is unacceptable.

As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, this is exactly the type of legislation my constituents sent me here to support. That is why, today, I will be voting "yes" on this important bill to keep our seniors' pocketbooks safe.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will join me in doing the same.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 500—the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023, to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial exploitation of specified adults.

H.R. 500 would allow a registered open-end investment company to better protect seniors by delaying the redemption period of any redeemable security if it was reasonably believed that such redemption was requested through the financial exploitation of a security holder who is a senior or individual unable to protect their own interests.

The legislation would also require the Securities and Exchange Commission to submit a report to Congress that includes recommendations for regulatory and legislative changes that would address financial exploitation of older adults.

16.9 percent of the United States population are adults 65 years and older. The nations' population is aging, and it is predicted that one in five Americans will be 65 years or older by 2040.

As our population gets older, it is imperative that we continue to protect ourselves against those who take financial advantage of our elders.

According to the Department of Justice, there were more than 92,000 victims of elder fraud in 2021. These 92,000 cases accounted for \$1.7 billion in losses in 2021.

Financial exploitation refers to financial crimes committed against older adults. Financial abuse is typically committed by someone that the senior knows and trusts, whereas financial fraud is committed by a stranger.

The median income of seniors 65 years and older is \$47,620, while the average annual expenses for this age group is \$48,872.

With this budget mismatch, many seniors are already on strict budgets, and with the risk of financial exploitation, it is essential that this age group is protected by legislation that makes it more difficult for unscrupulous individuals—whether a family member or a stranger—to take their hard-earned money from them.

In 2021, Texas ranked number three in the number of victims of financial exploitation. Almost 6,800 seniors were impacted, and the total losses were over \$150 million.

This legislation would help our seniors by requiring that financial institutions delay the redemption period for redeemable securities if it is believed that the request was made under financial exploitation.

As the number of elders increases in our Nation, the risk of financial exploitation increases. Lawmakers must work together to ensure that we are protecting Americans and their investments, and this legislation would do just that.

This common sense, bipartisan legislation passed the House in the 117th Congress, and shows that the two parties have the ability to come together to work on legislation that positively impacts the American public.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 500—the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023.

As we grow older as a nation, we must work to protect our elders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 500.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CREDIT UNION BOARD MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 582) to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of

board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 582

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Credit Union Board Modernization Act”.

SEC. 2. FREQUENCY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS.

Section 113 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1761b) is amended—

(1) by striking “monthly” each place such term appears;

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “The board of directors” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The board of directors”;

(3) in subsection (a) (as so designated), by striking “shall meet at least once a month and”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) MEETINGS.—The board of directors of a Federal credit union shall meet as follows:

“(1) With respect to a de novo Federal credit union, not less frequently than monthly during each of the first five years of the existence of such Federal credit union.

“(2) Not less than six times annually, with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter, with respect to a Federal credit union—

“(A) with composite rating of either 1 or 2 under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System (or an equivalent rating under a comparable rating system); and

“(B) with a capability of management rating under such composite rating of either 1 or 2.

“(3) Not less frequently than once a month, with respect to a Federal credit union—

“(A) with composite rating of either 3, 4, or 5 under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System (or an equivalent rating under a comparable rating system); or

“(B) with a capability of management rating under such composite rating of either 3, 4, or 5.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 582, the Credit Union Board Modernization Act.

Every day, consumers in each of our districts rely on their local credit union to help them with things like securing a loan to buy a home, saving for retirement, or even financing tuition. This means that credit unions need to spend their time working with their members, not wasting valuable resources and staff time checking the box on monthly meetings that may not be necessary.

This bill allows credit unions to do that important work. By updating the Federal Credit Union Act to reduce the frequency of required board meetings, certain Federal credit unions will have greater flexibility in meeting requirements. At the same time, the safety and soundness of the financial system will be protected.

Currently, Federal credit union boards are required to meet at least once per month. Under the bill's new requirements, Federal credit unions with a composite CAMELS rating of 1 or 2 will be required to meet at least six times annually, with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter.

What does that mean? It means entities with the strongest performance and risk management practices will be rewarded. That means, instead of checking the box on those monthly meetings, if they have high-quality performance and risk management, they will be relieved of some of those burdens.

To be clear, this is not a one-size-fits-all mandate. There is nothing in the bill that prevents those credit union boards from meeting each month or even more often, if needed, and they do. In times of financial stress, these boards meet quite frequently to assess risks and to protect their members' nest eggs.

This bill also acknowledges that new or poor-performing credit unions may require more regular meetings to ensure that they can provide the level of service their communities deserve. This legislation continues to require monthly meetings for new Federal credit unions during the first 5 years of existence.

In addition, credit unions with a composite CAMELS rating of 3, 4, or 5 must continue to meet once a month. These are the credit unions that need to improve performance and risk management practices to ensure the safety and soundness of our financial system.

Mr. Speaker, I will finish with this: This bill is a good illustration of how Members can come together to create bipartisan legislation to modernize outdated practices and policies for the benefit of our communities' financial institutions and for their members.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), the chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, for his good work last Congress and this Congress on this bill, and a bipartisan bill indeed this is.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and I urge my colleagues' adoption and support of this bill.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 582, the Credit Union Board Modernization Act, sponsored by Representative VARGAS.

This bill would modernize Federal requirements for Federal credit union board meetings to match a flexibility included in State credit union charter

requirements in 17 States, including my State of California.

Specifically, Federal credit unions are currently required to meet monthly. Under this bill, Federal credit unions that receive high ratings from the regulator would only be required to meet six times annually, with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter.

To ensure stability and mitigate the risk of institutional failure, this bill retains certain safeguards. For example, Federal credit unions that receive low exam ratings would still be required to meet at least monthly, as well as newly formed Federal credit union boards during the first 5 years of their charter.

Additionally, if emergencies or issues arise requiring a board meeting, nothing in the bill prevents Federal credit unions from meeting more frequently than what is required.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), the chair of the Financial Services Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MCHENRY for yielding me time this afternoon.

I rise today in support of the Credit Union Board Modernization Act and ask for its immediate passage.

Credit unions can play an important role in many of our local communities, often working with families and small business owners to gain access to credit.

H.R. 582 will go a long way to providing reasonable regulatory relief for credit unions, especially in Michigan's Fourth Congressional District and across the Nation.

□ 1715

Mr. Speaker, if signed into law, these commonsense, reasonable reforms will allow federally chartered credit unions in good standing in Michigan and across the country the same reasonable governance practices afforded to those at the State level.

Currently, all federally chartered credit union boards must meet at least once month. This one-size-fits-all requirement often negatively impacts smaller rural credit unions, which ultimately impacts, frankly, which members are willing to even serve on those boards and therefore the services that they can and will be able to provide to their local community.

The Credit Union Board Modernization Act rightly modernizes how often federally chartered credit union boards must meet, which the National Credit Union Administration currently mandates to be monthly. Nothing in this legislation prevents a credit union from meeting more than six times a year. It just gives them the flexibility and they are able to then decide. That

is the idea of a credit union; member-driven, they will decide.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the sponsor of this bill, the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) for working with Republicans, and specifically me, this last Congress to implement these reasonable safeguards.

I do want to note, specifically, this legislation does not apply to new credit unions or those credit unions with low exam ratings, as the chair had indicated. Highly rated credit unions with high management ratings must hold at least six meetings annually, with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter.

Alternatively, these lower-rated credit unions must continue to meet once a month, and there will be direction on that, as the chair has outlined.

I want to be clear. This bill does not give credit unions an advantage over their community bank counterparts but brings parity to an outdated process.

Again, I thank Congressman VARGAS for his commitment to make this a bipartisan effort. I look forward to seeing these reforms, which will strengthen local economies across the Nation, enacted into law.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mr. VARGAS' efforts to work on this bipartisan bill and appreciate that the reforms in this bill have been structured in a way to incentivize credit union boards to take steps to ensure their institutions are safe, sound, and well managed.

This bill has broad support, including from credit unions, like the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues, to consumer groups like Americans for Financial Reform.

I am pleased to work with Mr. VARGAS to advance this bill through the House. I was pleased to do this in the last Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

This is the case on the House Financial Services Committee, when we see a challenge that has a commonsense solution, we try to tackle it and we try to tackle it in a bipartisan way.

I want to concur with Mr. HUIZENGA in his praise of Mr. VARGAS. This was a bipartisan bill between Mr. VARGAS and Mr. HUIZENGA last Congress, and it continues to be a bipartisan bill this Congress.

I thank my colleague, Mr. VARGAS, for offering it, and I thank the ranking member for working with me and with my team to bring these three bipartisan bills before the full House in the opening month of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this bill's adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 582, the "Credit

Union Board Modernization Act" which would give credit unions more flexibility in their governance by not mandating monthly board meetings.

H.R. 582 would allow credit unions to dedicate more time and resources to serving their members by reducing the frequency that the board of directors of a federal credit union would be required to meet each year.

In the modern world, with increased connectivity from today's technology, boards of Credit Unions should not be subjected to mandated minimum meetings but should be provided with the flexibility to determine the frequency of their meetings as provided within the guidelines outlined in this bill.

By modernizing Credit Unions, we are ensuring that working class people who are exercising their right to choose what financial service they want, get the most from their chosen service.

This bill would be helpful to small credit unions, especially those that are closest to individual communities and whose boards may not be able to meet every month.

For years, I have supported Credit Unions by supporting their tax-exempt status in 2004 and 2011.

In 2012, I recognized and supported the Texas Dow Employees Credit Union full-service center, which was an important asset to the community.

Credit unions provide a critical resource to many working families by allowing them to have access to our financial system when they might otherwise be restricted from such access.

My constituents and many Americans rely on credit unions as a reasonable and trustworthy financial service.

According to the CUNA (Credit Union National Association), nationally there are over 135 million Americans who are members in a credit union.

In Texas alone, credit unions have 422 credit unions headquartered in the state and over 10 million members' total as of 2022.

If we require credit unions to dedicate resources to meetings instead of providing service to their members, we are failing our constituents.

America's credit unions are a central part of our Nation's financial prosperity and must be supported and uplifted through shifting times of essential modernization.

I support this bill and urge my colleagues to join me.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 582.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR RURAL JOB CREATORS ACT

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 298) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 298

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act”.

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR RURAL-AREA SMALL BUSINESSES.

Section 4(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)(C), by inserting “rural-area small businesses,” after “women-owned small businesses,”; and

(2) in paragraph (6)(B)(iii), by inserting “rural-area small businesses,” after “women-owned small businesses,”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 298, the Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act.

I thank Congressman MOONEY and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their work on this issue last Congress and this Congress.

In the Financial Services Committee, we continually highlight the importance of capital formation for entrepreneurs and job creators in underbanked rural communities. That means their ability to get a loan, their ability to get investment capital. We want to enhance every American's ability to get access to capital to take their ideas to market.

I can speak from experience about the struggles emerging entrepreneurs face when starting or growing their own small business.

My father started a business in our backyard, mowing grass for other people. He and his buddy both had five kids. I am the youngest of five kids. My dad's business partner had five kids. They had plenty of free labor. What they didn't have access to was capital or investment capital. So his first piece of lending was done because he had a Toro, which was the best lawnmower you could get at the time. A Toro salesperson so wanted to make the sale that he let him use the equipment until my father and his business partner could get paid from the hospital where they were mowing the grass. That was the first piece of equipment they got, because the sales guy wanted to make the sale.

The second piece of equipment they got was a truck, to put that lawn mower in the back of, that they got using a Master Charge, which is now Mastercard. They used a credit card to buy a truck. They put a rope around this very expensive riding lawnmower in the back of this beat-up pickup truck.

That was the dream for both families that put five kids through college. Both families, five kids. Ten kids total put through college. Now, my brother runs that business that my father started in our backyard.

The question of access to capital, if you don't have friends that have personal wealth, it is very difficult in this country. It is in rural communities. It is in urban communities. We have areas of this country that are underbanked and resource starved. It doesn't mean that they have less good ideas because of where they are born. They don't. That is not connected with this. They are starved for capital.

What we need to do, in a bipartisan way, and what we have had conversations on in a bipartisan way on our committee, is how to fix that problem. We are trying because we have communities across this country that are being left behind. That is completely unacceptable.

This is a bipartisan bill that tries to get at that and help small businesses that are vulnerable in rural communities.

Research shows that after the last financial crisis, small businesses and startups were less likely to form in rural areas than in urban areas. Now, these same small businesses are facing record inflation and supply chain disruptions.

In recent years, the SEC's Small Business Advocate found that rural businesses that seek investor capital are raising higher amounts. However, rural businesses are still raising less capital than their urban counterparts relative to the size of the affected population.

But even the urban numbers misrepresent what is happening in urban areas in this country. Just because a big business is headquartered in an urban area doesn't mean they are serving the urban area or that they are employing in that urban area. So we have got huge challenges.

In rural areas, which this bill deals with, every small business and entrepreneur counts. They are the lifeblood of the local economy, and their success is critical to the success of their community. This bill is just one example of how Congress can help solve one of the issues that rural small businesses face: access to capital.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman MOONEY for his work on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 298, the Expanding Access to Capital for Rural

Job Creators Act, sponsored by Representative MOONEY of West Virginia. Last Congress, this bill was led by Democrats and introduced by my good friend, former Representative AXNE of Iowa. The bill passed the House last year, and I continue to support it.

While small businesses in the big cities may enjoy easier access to capital to grow their businesses, hire and support their employees, and serve their communities, the businesses in rural America often struggle.

Rural America's job growth is half the rate than that of big cities. Rural America's poverty rate is also higher than that of the big cities, even though it has dropped under President Biden's leadership and as a result of the Inflation Reduction Act passed by Democrats last Congress.

To better understand these issues in rural America, H.R. 298 would require the SEC's Small Business Advocate to report to Congress on particular challenges that rural businesses face in accessing our capital markets.

I am very much in support of this bill. I have always advocated that we should work together, the rural legislators and the small town legislators, to be able to do more in rural communities. Of course, that takes resources.

So while my colleagues on the opposite side of the aisle may be in the cutting mode, based on what I am learning about the debt limit discussions that are going on, I would urge them to take a look at these rural communities so that we can begin to close that gap that exists.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleagues: It is not only when we are talking about businesses and small businesses, whether we are talking about that or healthcare or any of the other issues, the rural communities need more advocacy. They need more legislation. They need more of the Representatives on the opposite side of the aisle dealing with us so that we can correct these gaps that have lasted for far too long.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I agree with the words of the ranking member.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), the vice chair of the Financial Services Committee and the chair of the Digital Assets Subcommittee.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I certainly thank the chairman of the Financial Services Committee, and I thank the ranking member in the 118th Congress, Ms. WATERS, for her work on this bipartisan bill, H.R. 298, Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act, sponsored by Alex Mooney, our Member from West Virginia, certainly a very rural place, mountainous, tough to get around, a lot like Arkansas.

Small businesses, as the chairman said, are the backbone of the economy in Arkansas, as they are across the country. Almost 50 percent of jobs in

this Nation are with traditional small businesses. Yet, they face obstacles in getting the capital they need to grow and create jobs under the best of circumstances, in Los Angeles or in Charlotte, the financial capital of the east. These greater challenges are really tough when you get out in the country. In Arkansas, almost all but two counties in our State are deeply rural.

I was a bank president in a town of 100 people, in a county of 7,000. When you talk about capital needs, that was certainly the case. That is why I can support this wholly bipartisan legislation that would direct the Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation to study the problems faced by those small businesses, entrepreneurs, owners, and family businesses, that want to access capital to grow.

This bill passed this House last July with bipartisan support, and so it should do it again today. It sends a message that Congress is fighting to help our small businesses out in rural areas. It is critical. We want them to thrive.

□ 1730

Sadly, this Securities and Exchange Commission and its chairman, Gary Gensler, don't have this as a priority, Mr. Speaker. Their priority is not helping capital formation or helping small businesses thrive. In fact, they are trying to choke it off with their regulatory burden.

I am glad to see that Congress is weighing in to say this is important. Our young people in rural communities are also facing an additional crisis, which is, how do we create opportunities for high school students in rural counties that can't afford a 4-year college degree or don't want to saddle themselves with debt, and that means creating a path to pursue a skilled trade—something that is in desperate need in all of our counties, urban and rural.

Workforce education must go hand in hand with helping small capitals get the capital to grow. Entrepreneurs have to have the investment, but they have also got to have a skilled workforce to help them grow their company and expand for other people.

I am fully in support of this bill because I think it speaks to the heart of the vast majority of our country, which are small companies working in rural areas.

I agree with the ranking member when she says that they need investment in healthcare and other things in rural areas, and that is why in my State there are 172 community health centers, Federal community health centers, spread across our entire State. We have a really capable, good local hospital system throughout our rural counties.

We are blessed by that. We are blessed by good CTE schools, classic trade workforce schools, but we could

use more. Of course, we have got to have capital to grow, and it can't just come from the banking sector.

That is why I support so fully our chair's emphasis on crowdsourcing funding for small businesses. Think how much more straightforward that is in a rural area to try to do something good by bringing together people from all over, all works of life to help somebody build a business.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for his leadership. I thank the ranking member.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all our colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 298 directs the SEC Small Business Advocate to focus on the challenges rural small businesses face. I, again, urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Again, I would like to reiterate how anxious I am to work with the opposite side of the aisle so that we could close this gap and deal with the concerns of rural America. It is not only in small business; again, it is healthcare and it is in housing.

You all know that housing is one of my top priorities. I am looking forward to an urban-rural Renaissance of some kind. I want to say to Mr. HILL, I am looking forward to what can be done in Arkansas.

My mother was born in Cotton Plant, Arkansas, in his district, and I know that there are a lot of needs there, but it is going to cost money. It is going to cost time. I want the gentleman to know I believe in capital formation, and I think we can work together on capital formation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for her words and comments here. It is true we have worked together on capital formation initiatives in previous Congresses and I would hope that we will be able to do the same.

I know of her upbringing in Missouri and her career in California. She has both rural and urban experiences that she can bring to this and I, likewise, have mainly rural upbringing to bring to this, but I think together we can craft a smart agenda, address the needs of the American people, and that is my intention with a focus on capital formation across the country, with the needs of a modern economy to digitize so many of our processes in the world of financial services, and the need to give architecture to a new range of assets that are in the financial services world around cryptocurrency and digital assets.

There is a lot that is happening here that we have to embrace and allow that prosperity to be spread across the country. Working together, I think we can do that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 298—the Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act.

H.R. 298 requires the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation, an entity within the Securities and Exchange Commission to submit an annual report on the various challenges small businesses in rural areas face when attempting to secure capital.

This bill was first introduced in 2017 and continues to be reintroduced into congress with the sole hope of helping the small businesses that truly are the backbone of our economies.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 was originally created to regulate securities transactions in the secondary market in order to promote more financial integrity, transparency and to reduce fraud and manipulation.

Over the years, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 has been amended in response to various needs of our capital markets.

The Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation was established in January 2019 as an independent SEC office.

Among other things, this office is responsible for advancing the interests of small businesses and their investors at the SEC.

The office also facilitates the expanded access to capital for rural area small businesses.

Rural businesses in Texas and around the nation frequently encounter significant challenges when attempting to raise funds to expand and improve their operations.

Lack of capital or funding, a faulty infrastructure or business model, and ineffective marketing efforts are a frequent cause of failure for small businesses.

This legislation would support our rural economies by assisting rural small businesses in overcoming these obstacles.

It is crucial for Congress to support small and rural businesses if it wants to help this country continue to prosper and grow.

In 2022 Texas had a population of about 30 million, with 3.8 million of them residing in rural areas.

And in 2022, between 13 and 14 percent of all jobs in the United States could be found in rural areas, a rate that is only anticipated to increase over time.

These continuing increases in employment and population indicate a developing trend and the requirement for new businesses to develop in rural areas with easier access to capital which provides new employment opportunities.

With more than 13,000 unemployed Texans and 6 million Americans throughout the USA, it is essential that we, as elected members of Congress, support the economic growth of our rural populations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 298.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CISCOMANI) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 500; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION PREVENTION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 500) to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial exploitation of specified adults, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 15-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 419, nays 0, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 94]

YEAS—419

Adams	Biggs	Caraveo
Aderholt	Bilirakis	Carbajal
Aguilar	Bishop (GA)	Cárdenas
Alford	Bishop (NC)	Carey
Allen	Blunt Rochester	Carl
Amodel	Boebert	Carson
Armstrong	Bonamici	Carter (GA)
Arrington	Bost	Carter (LA)
Auchincloss	Bowman	Cartwright
Babin	Boyle (PA)	Case
Bacon	Brecheen	Casten
Baird	Brown	Castor (FL)
Balderson	Brownley	Castro (TX)
Balint	Buck	Chavez-DeRemer
Banks	Bucshon	Cherfilus-
Barr	Budzinski	McCormick
Barragán	Burchett	Chu
Bean (FL)	Burgess	Cicilline
Bentz	Burlison	Ciscomani
Bera	Bush	Clark (MA)
Beyer	Calvert	Clarke (NY)
Bice	Cammack	Cleaver

Cline	Hern	Miller (OH)
Cloud	Higgins (LA)	Miller (WV)
Clyburn	Higgins (NY)	Miller-Meeks
Clyde	Hill	Mills
Cohen	Himes	Molinaro
Cole	Hinson	Moolenaar
Collins	Horsford	Mooney
Comer	Houchin	Moore (AL)
Connolly	Houlahan	Moore (UT)
Correa	Hoyer	Moore (WI)
Costa	Hoyle (OR)	Moran
Courtney	Hudson	Morelle
Craig	Huffman	Moskowitz
Crane	Huizenga	Moulton
Crawford	Hunt	Mrvan
Crenshaw	Issa	Mullin
Crockett	Ivey	Murphy
Crow	Jackson (IL)	Nadler
Curtis	Jackson (NC)	Napolitano
D'Esposito	Jackson (TX)	Neal
Davids (KS)	Jackson Lee	Neguse
Davidson	Jacobs	Nehls
Davis (IL)	James	Newhouse
Davis (NC)	Jayapal	Nickel
De La Cruz	Jeffries	Norcross
Dean (PA)	Johnson (GA)	Norman
DeGette	Johnson (LA)	Nunn (IA)
DeLauro	Johnson (OH)	Oberman
DelBene	Johnson (SD)	Ocasio-Cortez
Deluzio	Jordan	Ogles
DeSaulnier	Joyce (OH)	Omar
DesJarlais	Joyce (PA)	Owens
Diaz-Balart	Kammlager-Dove	Pallone
Dingell	Kaptur	Palmer
Doggett	Kean (NJ)	Panetta
Donalds	Keating	Pappas
Duarte	Kelly (IL)	Pascarell
Duncan	Kelly (MS)	Payne
Dunn (FL)	Kelly (PA)	Pelosi
Edwards	Khanna	Peltola
Ellzey	Kiggans (VA)	Perez
Emmer	Kildee	Perry
Escobar	Kiley	Peters
Eshoo	Kilmer	Petterson
Españolat	Kim (CA)	Pfleger
Estes	Kim (NJ)	Phillips
Evans	Krishnamoorthi	Pingree
Ezell	Kuster	Pocan
Fallon	Kustoff	Porter
Feenstra	LaHood	Posey
Ferguson	LaLota	Pressley
Finstad	Lamborn	Quigley
Fischbach	Landsman	Ramirez
Fitzgerald	Langworthy	Raskin
Fitzpatrick	Larsen (WA)	Reschenthaler
Fleischmann	Larson (CT)	Rodgers (WA)
Fletcher	Latta	Rogers (AL)
Flood	LaTurner	Rogers (KY)
Foster	Lawler	Rose
Foushee	Lee (CA)	Rosendale
Fox	Lee (FL)	Ross
Frankel, Lois	Lee (NV)	Rouzer
Franklin, C.	Lee (PA)	Roy
Scott	Leger Fernandez	Ruiz
Frost	Lesko	Ruppersberger
Fry	Letlow	Rutherford
Fulcher	Levin	Ryan
Gaetz	Lieu	Salazar
Gallagher	Lofgren	Salinas
Gallego	Loudermilk	Sánchez
Garamendi	Lucas	Santos
Garbarino	Luetkemeyer	Sarbanes
Garcia (TX)	Luna	Scalise
Garcia, Mike	Luttrell	Scanlon
Garcia, Robert	Lynch	Schakowsky
Gimenez	Mace	Schiff
Golden (ME)	Magaziner	Schneider
Goldman (NY)	Malliotakis	Scholten
Gomez	Mann	Schrier
Gonzales, Tony	Manning	Schweikert
Good (VA)	Massie	Scott (VA)
Gooden (TX)	Mast	Scott, Austin
Gosar	Matsui	Scott, David
Gottheimer	McBath	Self
Granger	McCarthy	Sessions
Graves (LA)	McCaul	Sewell
Graves (MO)	McClain	Sherman
Green (TN)	McClintock	Sherrill
Green, Al (TX)	McCollum	Simpson
Greene (CA)	McCormick	Slotkin
Griffith	McGarvey	Smith (MO)
Grothman	McGovern	Smith (NE)
Guest	McHenry	Smith (NJ)
Guthrie	Meeks	Smith (WA)
Hagness	Menendez	Smucker
Harder (CA)	Meng	Sorensen
Harris	Meuser	Soto
Harshbarger	Mfume	Spanberger
Hayes	Miller (IL)	Spartz

Stansbury	Titus	Waltz
Stanton	Tlaib	Wasserman
Staubert	Tokuda	Schultz
Steel	Tonko	Waters
Stefanik	Torres (CA)	Watson Coleman
Steil	Torres (NY)	Weber (TX)
Stevens	Trahan	Webster (FL)
Stewart	Trone	Wenstrup
Strickland	Turner	Westerman
Strong	Underwood	Wexton
Swalwell	Valadao	Wild
Sykes	Van Drew	Williams (GA)
Takano	Van Duyne	Williams (NY)
Tenney	Van Orden	Wilson (FL)
Thanedar	Vargas	Wilson (SC)
Thompson (CA)	Vasquez	Wittman
Thompson (MS)	Veasey	Womack
Thompson (PA)	Velázquez	Yakym
Tiffany	Wagner	Zinke
Timmons	Walberg	

NOT VOTING—15

Allred	Casas	LaMalfa
Beatty	Cuellar	Pence
Bergman	Garcia (IL)	Steube
Blumenauer	Gonzalez,	Williams (TX)
Buchanan	Vicente	
Carter (TX)	Grijalva	

□ 1854

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 94.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen weather causing flight cancellations, I was unable to be present today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 94.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 70

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Issa, Mr. Buck, Mr. Gaetz, Mr. Johnson of Louisiana, Mr. Biggs, Mr. McClintock, Mr. Tiffany, Mr. Massie, Mr. Roy, Mr. Bishop of North Carolina, Mrs. Spartz, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Bentz, Mr. Cline, Mr. Gooden of Texas, Mr. Van Drew, Mr. Nehls, Mr. Moore of Alabama, Mr. Kiley, Ms. Hageman, Mr. Moran, Ms. Lee of Florida, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Fry.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Mr. Jordan, Mr. Turner, Mr. Gosar, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Grothman, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Higgins of Louisiana, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Biggs, Ms. Mace, Mr. LaTurner, Mr. Fallon, Mr. Donalds, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Perry, Mr. Timmons, Mr. Burchett, Mrs. Greene of Georgia, Mrs. McClain, Mrs. Boebert, Mr. Fry, Mrs. Luna, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Langworthy, Mr. Burlison.

Ms. STEFANIK. (During the reading.) Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND RANKING A MEMBER ON A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 71

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Ms. Lofgren, Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lieu, Ms. Jayapal, Mr. Correa, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Neguse, Mrs. McBath, Ms. Dean of Pennsylvania, Ms. Escobar, Ms. Ross, Ms. Bush, Mr. Ivey.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Ms. Norton, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Krishnamoorthi, Mr. Khanna, Mr. Mfume, Ms. Ocasio-Cortez, Ms. Porter, Ms. Bush, Mr. Gomez, Ms. Brown, Ms. Stansbury, Mr. Robert Garcia of California, Mr. Frost, Ms. Balint, Ms. Lee of Pennsylvania, Mr. Casar, Ms. Crockett, Mr. Goldman of New York, Mr. Moskowitz.

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, ranked as follows on the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. Torres of New York (to rank immediately after Ms. Tlaib).

Mr. AGUILAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1900

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's ap-

pointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. GUTHRIE of Kentucky
Mr. DUNN of Florida
Mr. BERGMAN of Michigan
Mrs. WAGNER of Missouri
Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania
Mr. MCCORMICK of Georgia

HONORING THE LIFE OF DICK FLOOD

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Dick Flood, or as many residents of the First District knew him, "Okefenokee Joe."

Flood was a singer, songwriter, entertainer, environmentalist, and in the south of Georgia, a local legend.

Okefenokee Joe lived in the Okefenokee Swamp for 10 years, learning firsthand about plants and animals in the area. He was well known to Georgia public broadcast viewers for his 1988 documentary, "The Joy of Snakes."

Flood also hosted the Emmy Award-winning Georgia Public Broadcast Television documentary, "Swampwise."

In the 1950s and 1960s, he wrote numerous songs for popular country music musicians.

This loss will be felt by all of us in the First District, and particularly for those that live in and around the Okefenokee Swamp.

On a personal note, when I was dating my wife, we went to see Okefenokee Joe at the Okefenokee Swamp, and I will never forget that.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Flood's family.

REPUBLICAN PLANS TO ENACT A 30 PERCENT SALES TAX

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to criticize the Republican plan to enact a 30 percent sales tax. This move would cost American families millions of dollars with higher prices for food and household necessities, and it would provide millions to the already wealthiest 1 percent of Americans.

Remember when many of these House Republicans were running for office? They claimed to make inflation and other economic factors their number one priority. Instead, their priority has been to make it easier to mislead the American people, stock committees with people who want to overthrow the country and increase prices on everything from gasoline to groceries to punish working-class Americans.

Thankfully, we have a Democratic Senate to shut down these abuses of power and protect the American people.

RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE YMCA OF CENTRE COUNTY'S ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Alpha Fire Company in State College and the Logan Fire Company in Bellefonte as well as their volunteers who collected community donations for the YMCA of Centre County's Anti-Hunger Program.

Mr. Speaker, these volunteers collected community donations of shelf-stable food totaling more than 24,000 pounds during a 4-hour "Canuary Food Drive" on Saturday at four Centre County Weis Markets locations.

Neighbors helping neighbors strengthens our community. As we continue to see rising food costs and record inflation, more and more families are turning to local food banks for food assistance.

The idea of "Canuary" started at the Port Matilda Elementary School but quickly became a large-scale community effort as volunteers from all over the area started offering to help.

Mr. Speaker, as someone who served for decades as a volunteer firefighter, I am happy to see the support they continue to provide to the community.

The "Canuary" Food Drive will aid in the effort and continues through the remainder of the month, with many churches, businesses, schools, offices, and student groups participating.

Congratulations on a successful weekend food drive.

IN MEMORY OF HILDA BEATRICE MACFARLAND

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hilda Beatrice MacFarland.

Hilda was born in National City, California, in 1949. She was a pioneer and a trailblazing woman in the 1970s when the Mexican-American community was still relying on demonstration politics.

Hilda worked for Housing and Urban Development, and she managed the senior citizen building Horton House in San Diego. She was heavily involved with countless nonprofit organizations where she fought for the poor, working-class, and elderly rights in the county.

In 1976, Hilda was the first major contributor to La Gloria Infantil Orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico, and spent her entire life providing services to the orphanage.

She was a heroic woman who stood up for education and human rights. She helped her community with the entirety of her heart and soul. With her strong and genuine spirit, she stood up for the disenfranchised, the abandoned, and the injured wherever she was.

Hilda was loved by many and influenced so many of us. Her accomplishments and contributions to the community were profound, and she will be sorely missed.

CONGRATULATING THE MISHAWAKA CAVEMEN

(Mr. YAKYM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a special group of Hoosiers who recently made their hometown very proud.

Earlier this month, the Mishawaka Cavemen won the 3A State title in wrestling for the fourth time in school history. Their return as State champions was 13 years in the making for the Cavemen, and it wasn't easy.

To take home the title, the Cavemen first had to go through the defending State champs, Columbus East, which they did on their way to an exhilarating 43-31 win.

As Head Coach Steve Sandefer said: "You have to wrestle for the guy next to you." I think that is the kind of team-first mindset that every wrestler embraced wholeheartedly. It is a big part of why they and the Mishawaka community are celebrating. I know it is an attitude that will serve these young men well in their future careers and family lives.

I know one more thing. That approach of rallying to pick up a teammate when they are down is something that our country could use a whole lot more of.

Congratulations to Coach Sandefer, his dedicated staff, and all the wrestlers on their big win.

God bless you. Go Cavemen.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE DOWN ON THE GOVERNMENT

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of North Carolina's First Congressional District.

Right now, the American people are down on the government and tired of the politics of division.

When I am at home in the district, I am reminded that there is still hope for the future, for the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, eastern North Carolinians are tired of what they see in Washington. They want us, Democrats and Republicans, to do right by them, to find solutions to the most pressing issues being discussed at the dinner table.

Mr. Speaker, I will do just that. I will fight to ensure those who fought to defend our freedoms do not have to fight their country to survive. I will fight to ensure our families and farmers are better connected, because they, too, deserve every resource to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I will fight to ensure our most vulnerable communities have access to affordable healthcare. We owe it to our communities. We must act together.

TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES

(Mr. LAWLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to bring this body's attention to the urgent need to provide tax relief for families in districts like mine.

Folks in the Hudson Valley are facing an affordability crisis due to record inflation, skyrocketing energy costs, and the arbitrary cap on State and local taxes, otherwise known as SALT, placed on residents of States like New York in 2017.

It effectively leads to double taxation in a part of our country which already pays among the highest taxes in the Nation. In Rockland and Westchester Counties, for instance, we pay the highest property taxes in the country, averaging well over \$10,000.

That is why I have introduced legislation, with bipartisan support of my colleagues Representatives D'ESPOSITO and SHERILL, to begin to address this. The SALT Marriage Penalty Elimination Act would correct the flaw created by the original SALT cap that penalizes married couples filing jointly by lifting their deduction to \$20,000 rather than \$10,000. This small change would significantly help families in my district and across the country.

Ultimately, we need to repeal this arbitrary cap in full, but in the meantime, we can take concrete steps to provide hardworking taxpayers in New York and across the country real tax relief.

SUPPORTING THE GREAT LAKES

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, as the Representative for the First District of Indiana, I rise today to express my appreciation for the provisions in the fiscal year 2023 omnibus bill that support the Great Lakes.

As the largest body of freshwater in the world, the Great Lakes and the Lake Michigan shoreline in northwest Indiana powered our Nation's industrial revolution and steel production capabilities, and today we continue to harness our region's environmental wonders to grow our economy.

I am grateful that the 2023 omnibus bill included robust funds for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, my Com-

munity Project Funding request to improve our shoreline and the Michigan City Harbor, as well as the provisions championed by my friend, Representative MARCY KAPTUR, to establish the Great Lakes Authority.

As we move forward, I look forward to continuing to work through the appropriations process to support the economic strength and environmental protection of Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes.

THE SCOURGE OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of the scourge of human trafficking and its impact on children.

It is well known that human trafficking is more profitable than drug trafficking because the vicious cycle of using someone over and over again is both profitable and obviously devastating for that human being.

In children and youth, they are used for sex trafficking. It is well known that you are apt to be trafficked from your school, from your primary or secondary school, online.

So I have introduced H.R. 30. I ask my colleagues to join me in the Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act, in which I am joined by my colleague, Congressman McCAUL, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

We have seen human trafficking go beyond the borders of this Nation. It is international. It is dastardly, as I said. It is in airports. It is in bathrooms in public transit places.

I want to congratulate the NTZ operation in my own community that has stopped human trafficking at sports arenas.

Let's protect children. Join H.R. 30, the Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-252. A letter from the Associate Administrator, National Organic Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Organic Program (NOP); Strengthening Organic Enforcement

[Doc. No.: AMS-NOP-17-0065; NOP-17-02] (RIN: 0581-AD09) received January 20, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-253. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Expanding TRICARE Access to Care in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic [Docket ID: DoD-2021-HA-0015 RIN: 0720-AB85] received January 23, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-254. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's joint final rule — Community Reinvestment Act Regulations Asset-Size Thresholds [Regulation BB; Docket No.: R-1795] (RIN: 3064-AF87) received January 13, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-255. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards for Safeguarding Customer Information (RIN: 3084-AB35) received January 4, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-256. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Air-Cooled, Three-Phase, Small Commercial Package Air Conditioning and Heating Equipment With a Cooling Capacity of Less Than 65,000 Btu/h and Air-Cooled, Three-Phase, Variable Refrigerant Flow Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps With a Cooling Capacity of Less Than 65,000 Btu/h [EERE-2017-BT-TP-0031] (RIN: 1904-AE06) received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-257. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Single Package Vertical Air Conditioners and Single Package Vertical Heat Pumps [EERE-2017-BT-TP-0020] (RIN: 1904-AD94) received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-258. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Warm Air Furnaces [EERE-2019-BT-STD-0042] (RIN: 1905-AE59) received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-259. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program; Addition of Uterine Cancer to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions [Docket No.: CDC-2022-0052; NIOSH-347] (RIN: 0920-AA82) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-260. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fluridone; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0787; FRL-10504-01-OCSP] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-261. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Colorado; Delegation of Authority of the Federal Plan for Existing Hospital, Medical, Infectious Waste Incinerators [EPA-R08-OAR-2022-0929; FRL-10462-02-R8] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-262. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Finding of Failure To Submit State Implementation Plan Revisions Required Under Clean Air Act Section 185; California; Sacramento Metro Area [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0962; FRL-10505-01-R9] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-263. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Base Year Emissions Inventory and Emissions Statement Rule for the 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R05-OAR-2020-0730; EPA-R05-OAR-2020-0731; FRL-9746-02-R5] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-264. A letter from the Program Analyst, International Bureau — Satellite Policy Branch, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Space Innovation [IB Docket No.: 22-271]; Mitigation of Orbital Debris in the New Space Age [IB Docket No.: 18-313] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-265. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(j), Table of TV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Chicago, Illinois) [MB Docket No.: 22-456] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-266. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(j), Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Memphis, Tennessee) [MB Docket No.: 22-146] (RM-11925) received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-267. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(j), Table of Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Norwell, Massachusetts) [MB Docket No.: 22-376] (RM-11934) received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-268. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security

Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendments to Part 4 of the Commission's Rules Concerning Disruptions to Communications [PS Docket No.: 15-80]; Improving 911 Reliability [PS Docket No.: 13-75]; New Part 4 of Commission's Rules Concerning Disruptions to Communications [ET Docket No.: 04-35] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-269. A letter from the Chief, Revenue and Receivables, Financial Operations, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Schedule of Applications Fees Set Forth in Sections 1.1102 through 1.1109 of the Commission's Rules [MD Docket No.: 20-270] received January 23, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-270. A letter from the Program Analyst, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau et al., Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules [WP Docket No.: 07-100] received January 23, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-271. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's policy statement — Policy Statement of the Federal Trade Commission on Rebates and Fees in Exchange for Excluding Lower-Cost Drug Products received January 4, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-272. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Enforcement Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 1.80(b) of the Commission's Rules Annual Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties To Reflect Inflation [DA 22-1356] received January 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-273. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's notice — Adjustments to Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts [Release Nos.: 33-11143; 34-96605; IA-6212; IC-34797] received January 13, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-274. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1574; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01362-T; Amendment 39-22274; AD 2022-25-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-275. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1657; Project Identifier AD-2022-01475-T; Amendment 39-22292; AD 2022-27-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-276. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1658; Project

Identifier MCAI-2022-01597-R; Amendment 39-22293; AD 2022-27-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-277. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate previously held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1649; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01206-E; Amendment 39-22284; AD 2022-26-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-278. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0465; Project Identifier AD-2022-00330-R; Amendment 39-22288; AD 2022-27-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-279. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. FAA-2022-1355; Amdt. Nos.: 21-106, 23-65, 25-146, 29-58, 33-1, 36-32, 47-32, 49-11, 60-7, 61-151, 67-22, 73-1, 91-366, 97-1339, 101-9, 107-10, 121-387, 125-72, 129-54, 135-143, 141-24, 183-18, 440-6] (RIN: 2120-AL53) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-280. A letter from the Senior Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, Regulatory Affairs, Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Hazardous Materials: Editorial Corrections and Clarifications [Docket No.: PHMSA-2021-0091 (HM-260B)] (RIN: 2137-AF56) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-281. A letter from the Senior Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, Regulatory Affairs, Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials: Enhanced Safety Provisions for Lithium Batteries Transported by Aircraft (FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018) [Docket No.: PHMSA-2016-0014 (HM-224I)] (RIN: 2137-AF20) received January 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. STANTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 617. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to deem foods containing xylitol as misbranded unless the label or labeling of such foods contains a

warning specifying the toxic effects of xylitol for dogs if ingested, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 618. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 619. A bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 620. A bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BAIRD (for himself, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 621. A bill to prevent the theft of catalytic converters and other precious metal car parts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. CASTEN):

H.R. 622. A bill to increase the number of Members of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 623. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the implementation of curricula for training students, teachers, and school personnel to understand, recognize, prevent, and respond to signs of human trafficking and exploitation in children and youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 624. A bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to authorize compensation for victims of illicit fentanyl poisoning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. KILMER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PORTER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. EVANS, Ms. CHU, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SWALLOW, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. CORREA, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CROW, Mr.

PAYNE, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASE, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BROWN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. LIEU, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. HIMES, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. BERA, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 625. A bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 626. A bill to advance commonsense policy priorities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and the Workforce, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Accountability, Financial Services, Agriculture, House Administration, the Judiciary, Small Business, Homeland Security, Rules, Ethics, the Budget, Foreign Affairs, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Armed Services, and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 627. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit an individual from registering to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State unless the individual provides documentary proof that the individual is a citizen of the United States; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 628. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize the South Florida Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself and Mr. BRECHEN):

H.R. 629. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for State approval and implementation of specified waivers under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 630. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to establish an urban Indian organization confer policy for the Department of Health and Human Services; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. ISSA, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CLINE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina):

H.R. 631. A bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of

Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CARL, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BANKS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. SANTOS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. MOONEY):

H.R. 632. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act and Public Health Service Act to improve the reporting of abortion data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 633. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to exempt certain direct primary care arrangements from regulation as health insurance coverage; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 634. A bill to require the Administrator to provide certain notices to property owners when undertaking remapping in geographic areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 635. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permanently include certain HCPCS codes as telehealth services under such title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 636. A bill to establish an arbitration process pilot program as an alternative dispute resolution process for certain objections or protests to qualified forest management activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 637. A bill to direct the heads of certain departments and agencies of the Federal Government to publicly disclose all assassination records and information relevant to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 638. A bill to withdraw normal trade relations treatment from, and apply certain provisions of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 to, products of the People's Republic of China, and to expand the eligibility requirements for products of the People's Republic of China to receive normal trade relations treatment in the future, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. CHU, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 639. A bill to ensure due process protections of individuals in the United States against unlawful detention based solely on a protected characteristic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. CHU, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 640. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu, in recognition of his contributions to civil rights, his loyalty and patriotism to the Nation, and his dedication to justice and equality; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H. Res. 70. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H. Res. 71. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives and ranking a Member on a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. FALLON, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Ms. FOXX, Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. STEEL, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. KILEY, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. COLE):

H. Res. 72. A resolution recognizing the contributions of independent workers and contractors to the American economy; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. LESKO:

H. Res. 73. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Medicare and Social Security provide an essential benefit for current enrollees and should be strengthened for future generations; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. CHU, and Ms. MATSUI):

H. Res. 74. A resolution recognizing the importance of establishing a national "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois introduced A bill (H.R. 641) for the relief of Reverend Olusegun Samson Olaoye; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the fol-

lowing statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 617.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 618.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 619.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 620.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 621.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;" (Commerce Clause)

"The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof." (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 622.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 2, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation expands the voting membership of the U.S. House of Representatives.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 623.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 624.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 625.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 allows Congress to make all laws "which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution" any "other" powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 626.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 627.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit the registration of individuals not providing proof of United States Citizenship and applying criminal penalty for the attempt to do so.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 628.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, to authorize the South Florida Program

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 629.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18
The single subject of this legislation is:

To permit states to carry out certain demonstration projects under the Medicaid program

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 630.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution Article 1 Sections 1 and 8

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 631.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

Receipt of federal educational funds by states and reduction of federal mandates and regulations so local education agencies and schools can focus on improving educational opportunities and being more accountable and transparent to taxpayers and parents.

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 632.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Incentivize the reporting of abortion data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 633.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 634.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 635.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 636.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 637.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ASSASSINATION RECORDS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 638.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 689.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Specifically, prohibits detention or imprisonment based solely on an actual or perceived protected characteristic of an individual.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 640.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To honor Fred T. Korematsu with a Congressional Gold Medal

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 641.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration Private Bill

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 38: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. FISCHBACH, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 53: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BACON, and Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 82: Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. COLE, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. BROWN, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 139: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. CARL, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 142: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 143: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 146: Mrs. MCCLAIN and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 150: Mr. BABIN and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 185: Mr. OGLES, Mr. FRY, and Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 243: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 248: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 263: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 292: Mr. LEVIN and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 293: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 298: Ms. PEREZ, Mr. ROSE, Mr. FRY, and Mr. JAMES.

H.R. 309: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 318: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 335: Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 347: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 382: Mrs. CAMMACK, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. FRY, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. MANN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BARR, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. HUNT, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. EZELL, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. DUARTE, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 396: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 404: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.

H.R. 406: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 408: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 412: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 424: Mr. CAREY and Mr. JACKSON of Texas.

H.R. 435: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 453: Mr. SELF and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 461: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. MANN, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 465: Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 472: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 496: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. FRY, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.

H.R. 497: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 500: Ms. PEREZ, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mr. JAMES.

H.R. 503: Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 508: Mr. BURGESS, Ms. VAN DUYN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 513: Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. LUTTRELL, and Mr. KUSTOFF.

H.R. 536: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Mr. SWALWELL.

H.R. 537: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 541: Mr. MCCAUL and Mr. ELLZEY.

H.R. 558: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 562: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 568: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 572: Mr. OWENS and Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 574: Mr. OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 582: Mr. COHEN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RYAN,

Ms. TITUS, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. EMMER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. ROSE, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. EVANS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. FULCHER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. OGLES, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. ZINKE, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. CHU, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. KIM of California, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. COSTA, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. STRONG.

H.R. 584: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 592: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 603: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 607: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 615: Mr. JACKSON of Texas and Mr. MURPHY.

H.J. Res. 7: Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. FRY, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. DUARTE, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. Good of Virginia, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. YAKYM, and Mr. CRANE.

H.J. Res. 8: Mr. OGLES.

H.J. Res. 13: Mr. KEATING.

H.J. Res. 18: Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 9: Mr. ROSE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. MILLS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FULCHER, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. BACON, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. YAKYM.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 8: Mr. MILLS and Mr. MEUSER.
H. Res. 26: Mr. CARSON.
H. Res. 59: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. CRAIG.
H. Res. 68: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 69: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MANN, Mr. LAWLER, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. WALTZ.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. COMER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability in H.R. 139, the Stopping Home Office Work's Unproductive Problems (SHOW UP) Act of 2023, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MRS. RODGERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 382, Pandemic is Over Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MRS. RODGERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 497, Freedom for Health Care Workers Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in H.J. Res. 7, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of Rule XXI.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2023

No. 19

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of life, rescue us from the faults to which we are prone. Keep us from saying one thing and doing another; from criticizing others for what we allow in ourselves. Keep us from demanding standards from others which we ourselves make no effort to fulfill. Lord, keep us from the indecision that cannot say "yes" or "no." Keep us from the reluctance to break habits which we know are wrong. Today, keep our Senators from anything that prevents them from giving all their loyalty, allegiance, and heart to You. And Lord, comfort the loved ones of Tyre Nichols. We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. First, Madam President, we will do a little housekeeping, and then I will give my remarks.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 123

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 123) to protect American small businesses, gig workers, and freelancers by repealing the burdensome American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 transactions reporting threshold, and to rescind certain funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

REMEMBERING TYRE NICHOLS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on Friday, the city of Memphis released the brutal, truly sickening body cam footage of the murder of Tyre Nichols.

I am heartbroken, horrified, and appalled by this heinous murder. This should have just been a routine traffic stop. It never, never should have ended the way it did, in unnecessary violence and bloodshed.

The repetitiveness of unjust murders like Tyre Nichols' is a stain on America. The five police officers who betrayed their oath to serve and protect should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

We should remember Tyre for who he was and for the life he lived. By all accounts, he was a beautiful and gentle soul. He was creative, he was energetic, and he was deeply passionate about the things he loved most: sunsets, skateboarding, and, above all, his family. He was a father, a son, a friend, a talented young man with his whole life ahead of him, and he should still be alive today.

So let us honor his memory by bringing lasting, meaningful change to create a more just and a more fair America, our long-trodden path to try and make this country—this beautiful country—a more perfect place and a more perfect nation.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on the debt ceiling, one of Congress's top priorities this year is ensuring the United States does not default on its debt for the first time in our history. Even approaching a default would be disastrous for American families. The damages will show up on everything from people's credit card bills, their mortgage rates, and when applying for things as basic as a car loan. It risks thousands of dollars lit on fire for millions of American families. Everyone's life in this country will take many steps backward if we default.

Now, Republicans have done a lot of talking about cuts, but when it comes to actually showing us a plan for avoiding default, they are playing a dangerous game. Republicans, it is time to come out of hiding, put pen to paper, and show us your plan. Republicans, show us your plan.

According to some reports, Republicans want significant cuts across the board. But from where? Is funding for our troops safe? We don't know. Republicans, show us the plan.

Is funding for police and firefighters and first responders safe? Republicans, show us the plan.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Is funding for Social Security and Medicare safe, which some in that party, particularly on the MAGA wing, think should be cut? We don't know. Show us the plan.

The silence is unacceptable because the American people have a right to know whether they are going to see crucial services suddenly dry up. And if Republicans don't get their way, Americans have a right to know whether or not the hard-right GOPers are really prepared to lead the House Republican conference to push the United States to default and whether the Republican House, led by MCCARTHY, will follow them over that devastating cliff, sending costs spiking on everything from credit cards to auto loans, to mortgages.

We have seen in realtime how dangerous it is for Speaker MCCARTHY to have empowered the most extreme elements of the GOP to set the agenda in the House. The MAGA wing of the GOP, which has set the rules on how the House should run, has left no doubt that, under their watch, no form of funding, however necessary, is safe.

Democrats, meanwhile, have been very clear about our position. When it comes to the debt ceiling, there can be no brinksmanship, no threats, no hostage-taking. This is simply too important. It has to get done.

Republicans need to show their plan to the American people. The clock is ticking on the debt ceiling every day. We must make sure that a first-ever default doesn't occur. Yet Republicans are making it more and more likely.

GATEWAY PROGRAM

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, now, on Gateway, tomorrow is a big day for New Yorkers, as we welcome President Biden to celebrate progress on the most important infrastructure project in America, the new Gateway rail tunnel.

This day has been a decade in the making. The Northeast corridor is the busiest passenger rail line in the country, and the crossing under the Hudson is its most important nexus point. But for far too long, these two single-track tunnels have been badly in need of repairs.

After Hurricane Sandy devastated New York and the experts said there is limited time in which they will be operable, fixing the tunnel became one of my greatest passions, a labor of love, because I love New York and, without it, New York's economy would come screeching to a halt. For years, I worked hard, bringing together public and private partners from New York, New Jersey, and Amtrak to get everyone on the same page on Gateway. We met a lot of resistance along the way.

When President Trump was in office, he tried to freeze progress on the Gateway project altogether, going as far as holding it hostage in negotiations over the border wall. Still, I was proud that, even during the Trump administration,

I was able to double, triple, quadruple, and, in one case, increase tenfold the funding for various Federal spending accounts pertaining to Gateway because I knew that one day—one day—President Trump would no longer be in office.

Now, thanks to our bipartisan infrastructure bill and with great help from President Biden, Gateway is moving forward. Under our infrastructure law, tens of billions of more dollars have been dedicated to Federal accounts, which will support Gateway and many, many other large projects in the country, and this is something I am very, very proud to celebrate.

I will have more to say in New York tomorrow, but, today, I want to affirm once again that progress on Gateway is a very important example of how our infrastructure bill is making life better for millions of everyday Americans. Building two new tunnels and updating the existing tunnels will lead to work with good-paying union jobs—tens of thousands of jobs—and lead to a burst of economic activity for decades to come.

I want to thank President Biden for making the trip to New York tomorrow, and I am happy to say that, after a lot of hard work and a lot of stubborn persistence, our efforts are finally paying off.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Mr. SCHUMER. On a final note, Madam President, last Thursday, I announced the slate of committee members for the 118th Congress on the Democratic side. I want to thank every one of my colleagues for their continued good work and readiness to make life better for the American people. I expect that, by the end of this week, we will have the full slate of all the committees fully locked in, enabling us to move forward on the important work we have before us.

We got a good deal—a tremendous amount—of bipartisan work done last year, and I am optimistic and hopeful that we can likewise continue this year in a productive, bipartisan spirit whenever possible. I look forward to having all committee memberships announced in full really soon.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

AMERICAN ENERGY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the new Republican House of Representatives has already done more to protect our Nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve than the single-party Democratic government did in the last 2 years.

First, House Republicans passed legislation that would ban the Federal Government from selling energy from the SPR to benefit our Nation's No. 1 strategic adversary—the Chinese Communist Party. Then, last week, the House followed on by passing H.R. 21, a bipartisan bill that would require the Department of Energy to offset any nonemergency drawdowns of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve by expanding access to America's abundant domestic energy on Federal lands. Speaker MCCARTHY and Chair CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS were right to make American energy security a top priority for their new majority.

It is too bad that it is even necessary to protect our Nation's emergency energy reserves from our own Commander in Chief and his party, but unfortunately the Biden administration has proven that it is necessary.

Last year, with his party hurting at the polls, President Biden released more than 200 million barrels, leaving America's strategic reserve at its lowest level since 1983. To make matters worse, this political gamble didn't just leave America less secure, it directly benefited China. President Biden's Department of Energy hadn't just sold off critical supplies; they sold some of them—listen to this—directly to a Chinese refining company.

Last year, Senate Republicans put every Democrat on the record with an amendment to clamp down on selling our strategic reserve to China. Senate Democrats blocked it. The Democratic Senators from States like West Virginia, Montana, and Ohio voted on party lines to let the Biden administration continue to sell our reserves to the CCP.

Democrats' recklessness with our energy reserves actually predates this particular administration. Remember back when oil prices were at historic lows during the early days of the COVID pandemic? We Republicans tried to refill the SPR to the top. We could have totally replenished our stockpile at bargain-basement prices. But the Senate Democrat leader blocked it and bragged about blocking it. Our colleague crowed that his party had stopped a "bailout for Big Oil." Of course, what he really blocked was a win-win for national security as well as the American taxpayer.

Washington Democrats have been dead wrong on how to handle our strategic reserve literally for years. This is just one symptom of their deep misunderstanding about energy, about the importance of American energy dominance and the way to achieve it.

Across the Atlantic, war in Ukraine has brought the vulnerability of Europe's dependence on Russian energy

into stark and painful relief. Half-baked green transitions, an allergy to clean and reliable nuclear power, and an addiction to Russian gas sent our allies' energy costs through the roof, with working families and ratepayers actually footing the bills.

It could have been a helpful, cautionary tale for the United States, but by last year, the Biden administration was already a year deep into their comprehensive war on abundant and affordable American energy. Remember, on day one in office, President Biden canceled further work on the Keystone XL Pipeline with the stroke of a pen—forget safe and efficient energy transport, high-paying American jobs, and lower cost, reliable power. The President had already put climate activism in the driver's seat of his own energy policy.

The Biden administration has frozen new oil exploration on public lands, overhauled permitting rules to make it harder to develop natural gas resources, dragged the United States back into a climate deal that gives the Chinese Communist Party a pass to keep increasing its carbon emissions, and balked at a chance to block Vladimir Putin's latest pipeline for controlling European consumption.

It is an absolutely nonsensical agenda, and it hasn't taken long for families across our country to feel the direct effects in the form of soaring prices in their heating and electricity bills, at the gas pump, as well as at the grocery store.

Fortunately, millions of working Americans were fed up last November and decided to put an end to Democrats' total control here in Washington. Republicans will stand strong on the side of American energy dominance, on the side of national security, on the side of American workers, American families, and America's future.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

POLICE REFORMS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, I am responsible for legislation in the Senate relative to law enforcement and criminal justice. It is an awesome responsibility, and I think about it quite a bit because the first thing all of us want is the safety of our families and our communities. It is the first question asked: How safe is that area of Chicago? How safe is that part of Springfield? It is a reality, and it is a natural reaction.

I have had, during the course of my congressional career, the opportunity to meet many of the men and women in

law enforcement. Let me tell you, there are some outstanding people who literally get up in the morning and put on that badge and risk their lives. They go out for just a routine traffic stop, and they could end up dead. That is the reality of police work in a dangerous world, particularly in a world awash with guns, as we are in the United States.

Having said that, acknowledging that reality, I also know that there are cops who are doing terrible things. That was brought home to America vividly over the last several days. You see, videotapes and DNA evidence have changed our conversation about law enforcement and justice. We now know just what happened—not an account of what happened; we know what happened. We see it on videotapes over and over and over again. And we know sometimes that people who have been found guilty of crimes and are serving long sentences—it turns out the DNA evidence proves it couldn't possibly have been them who were responsible. It is a gross miscarriage of justice for the person who is incarcerated—and even worse, the fact that the person who is culpable, blamable, who should be prosecuted, may somewhere be on the loose. Videotape and DNA have changed it.

Many Americans are struggling with feelings of grief and disbelief after they watched the videotapes of Tyre Nichols being beaten to death by a group of Memphis police officers.

Mr. Nichols, a 29-year-old father of a young son, worked the second shift at a FedEx facility with his stepfather. He loved skateboarding and photography. He loved his mother so much, he had her name tattooed on his arm. He had no criminal record. One friend told a reporter Mr. Nichols was even thinking about being a police officer to try to make the system better from the inside.

The videotapes of the deadly assault on Mr. Nichols by Memphis police officers on January 7 are horrific and sickening. They show at least five officers attacking Mr. Nichols with their fists, boots, batons, Tasers, and pepper spray, while yelling contradictory orders to him. They continued pummeling Mr. Nichols even as he screamed in pain, begged them to stop, and called out for his mother. One officer kicked him in the head so hard that the officer was limping afterwards.

When the beating was over, another officer propped an apparently unconscious Tyre Nichols up against the side of the squad car while the others laughed, fist-bumped, and tried to justify their awful behavior.

It took 20 minutes for an ambulance to arrive, even longer for medical aid to be rendered. Tyre Nichols died 3 days later in a Memphis hospital. An independent autopsy revealed he had "suffered extensive bleeding caused by a severe beating."

The killing of Tyre Nichols follows years of devastating tragedies and

needless loss. Who can ever forget George Floyd? When I saw the videotape of what happened to him and saw that policeman with his knee on his neck stare straight at the camera—I will never forget that. Or Breonna Taylor, shot in her apartment.

In my own home State of Illinois, Laquan McDonald. A videotape that was held back from the public for over a year finally was brought to light, and people saw that he was shot in the back repeatedly, over and over again. There are so many others. For George Floyd, he was murdered as he lay on a curb in Minneapolis. Tyre Nichols was chased down and beaten to death.

Black Americans in particular are forced to live through trauma with every new incident of police violence.

I applaud the Shelby County district attorney for moving swiftly in seeking the indictment of the five police officers. A sixth officer connected to the incident was suspended today.

I agree with the attorney for Mr. Nichols' family, Ben Crump, that the response by prosecutors could be a "blueprint" for how such cases should be handled in the future if, inevitably, there are such cases.

We shouldn't wait for months to bring charges. There is no excuse for delayed justice when the heinous acts occur and the facts are as clear as the videotape.

I also want to extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Nichols' family, especially his mom and his stepfather, who have responded with dignity and grace to this unimaginable ordeal.

Before the videotapes were released, they called repeatedly for protests to be peaceful. I would like to think that I would have the strength to do that, having just lost my son in those circumstances, but the Nichols family did, and throughout our Nation, almost without exception, their wishes have been respected.

But prosecutions and peaceful protests cannot be the only response to this tragedy. Americans—especially Black Americans—are exhausted by the injustice of officers who abuse their authority. They are tired of the systemic failures that can lead to a young man being beaten to death after a questionable traffic stop.

As chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to finally confront these problems with meaningful legislation.

We need to have an honest conversation with law enforcement officers about screening, training, inherent bias, use of force, and consequences for unjust actions.

We need to prohibit deadly and dishonorable police misconduct. We must recruit and train the next generation of law enforcement to protect and serve everyone in America: Black, White, Brown, and everything in between.

We have made some very modest progress. Last December, Congress enacted and the President signed a bill on

law enforcement deescalation training. It provides for grants and training for law enforcement deescalation tactics. It is not enough. We must do more.

In the last Congress, Senator CORY BOOKER of New Jersey led an effort to build bipartisan support for policing reform legislation that national police groups and civil rights advocates could endorse. He worked with TIM SCOTT, a Republican Senator from South Carolina.

They invited me and Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM into their deliberations. They were close to making some progress toward our goals, but even if you look at their goals, which I believe were good, they are not enough. Simply to say we are going to ban choke holds or we are going to deal with warrantless searches in a different way doesn't get to the heart of the issue. What is in the mind of these policemen when they are executing their job, doing their duty? Is it the right way to approach things?

These efforts must continue now anew. We owe it to all of the families who have lost loved ones in these horrible acts of brutality and to the families who fear that their loved ones could be next to pass a law that will help ensure justice and accountability in our policing system.

The vast majority of law enforcement officers are appalled and angered by the deaths of Mr. Nichols and others. They deserve our thanks, and I believe they will support bipartisan efforts to prevent such abuses and punish those who commit them.

As I mentioned, Tyre Nichols loved photography. He loved photographing the world as he saw it. One of his favorite images—which appears again and again in his photos—was the image of a bridge. It is time for Members of the Senate to bridge our differences and pass policing reform so that Tyre Nichols' death will not have been in vain.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DE-ESCALATION TRAINING ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, the killing of Tyre Nichols has reignited a national debate about the excessive use of force by police, and rightfully so. This unarmed 29-year-old was brutally beaten by Memphis police officers with an egregious, excessive use of force.

Within the Republican conference, Senator TIM SCOTT from South Carolina has been our leader on police reform matters, and I have been proud to work with him on bills to help improve policing in our communities and public safety. One of those bills was the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act, which, by the way, was just signed into law last month.

This new law will ensure that all police officers have the opportunity to acquire skills to defuse a potentially dangerous situation like the one we

saw in Memphis. Use of force should only come into play when absolutely necessary, and this legislation will provide law enforcement officers with the knowledge of what alternatives are available to them, which invariably will make their lives better and safer and also protect the life of the individual who is being detained.

This has the potential to save lives and prevent another senseless and entirely preventable tragedy like this from reoccurring.

I am glad this legislation is now the law of the land, and the Department of Justice must implement it as quickly as possible.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, on another matter, last Friday I was in Austin, my home, and had the opportunity to speak at a conference that included some of the leading experts in all things dealing with declassification and government transparency.

It was cohosted by a number of academic institutions in Texas and the Public Interest Declassification Board, or PIDB.

Most of us had never heard of this group before, but the PIDB leads incredible work to help advise the President and the executive branch on ways to modernize the classification and declassification processes which safeguard our national security but also protect public trust in our institutions.

I joined an onstage conversation with my friend Will Inboden, who leads the Clements Center for National Security at the University of Texas at Austin.

We talked about the circumstances under which classification is important. Controlling access to certain sensitive information enables the United States to remain at least one step ahead of our adversaries. It also protects sources and methods that allow us to collect clandestine intelligence and protect the lives of those intelligence professionals who are engaged in collecting that information, as well as the avenues into those sources that are important to collecting this intelligence. Obviously, we don't want to jeopardize either the individuals involved or dissuade anyone from wanting to work with us in the future or to allow some of our access to dry up because it then becomes a matter of public knowledge.

But we know classification is not always the right answer. There are many circumstances in which declassification safeguards our national security.

One example is the way in which the United States Government declassified and shared information with our allies in the run-up to Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine.

The decision to declassify some important intelligence gave Ukraine enough battlefield awareness to push back after the initial attack and save countless lives. It also unified Western response, leading to quick condemna-

tion of Russia's attack and resources for Ukrainian forces.

Declassification is an important tool with which we share information with our friends and allies around the world, but it is also another way to show the American people what their government is doing. It builds trust and transparency. It inspires confidence in the incredible work that our intelligence professionals are doing, and it equips scholars with the information they need to conduct academic research that informs decision making.

Obviously, there is a very delicate balance between transparency, which drives democratic self-governance, and secrecy, which is sometimes necessary to protect sources and methods of information that are important to protect our national security.

Policymakers and scholars have long debated this balance, but it doesn't often garner much attention in the public square. At least that was the case until recently.

Over the last several months, law enforcement have uncovered classified documents in unsecured locations. For example, documents were discovered at President Trump's home in Florida. They were uncovered at President Biden's home in Delaware and in his private office in Washington, DC. And they were found at the home of former Vice President Pence in Indiana.

All of these discoveries paint a deeply concerning picture, because those of us with access to classified information know that the only appropriate place to view classified information is in a secure setting.

Now, we have no idea—we, as Congress—no idea what these classified documents contain. We don't know who had access to them. We have no insight into the possible ramifications for national security. So there are a lot of unanswered questions that need answers.

This really addresses Congress's unique role, as a coequal branch of government, to provide oversight of the Federal Government. As elected representatives, we have the duty to our constituents and to our country to ensure their government is working for them, and oversight of the intelligence community is a big part of that job, and it is part of the system of checks and balances.

Now, in most cases, oversight happens out in the open at congressional hearings, but this is, obviously, a different sort of case. We are talking about classified documents that were never meant for public consumption.

That is why we have the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that I serve on and the House Committee on Intelligence, both of which were created after the Church Committee made recommendations about oversight that needed to be put in place over the intelligence community—both the police, the community itself, to make sure that those tools were not abused, but also to restore public confidence that

that oversight was occurring and that abuses were not occurring at the same time.

The Senate Intelligence Committee is one of the most bipartisan on Capitol Hill, and I credit our leadership for keeping us above the political fray.

Chairman WARNER, a Democrat from Virginia, and Vice Chairman RUBIO, a Republican from Florida, operate arm in arm to lead the kind of oversight that I believe helps instill confidence in the intelligence community and in our intelligence professionals.

The committee has a responsibility to examine the facts of these cases and understand the potential risk it could create for national security.

Unfortunately, in a hearing we had with the Director of National Intelligence, we seem to have hit a brick wall, at least initially. Despite the high profile nature of these discoveries, the Biden administration will not allow Congress to perform its constitutional oversight duties.

Back in August, Senator WARNER and Senator RUBIO sent a letter to the Director of National Intelligence and the Attorney General requesting the classified documents that were seized at Mar-a-Lago.

Members of the Intelligence Committee are accustomed to reviewing, handling, and protecting classified information. It is something we do on virtually a daily basis. This document request was not to make this public. This was a request for committee members to review the documents in a classified setting. The administration refused.

In the months since, classified documents have been discovered at more locations, and, again, the administration has refused to provide access to this intelligence.

The Justice Department, as we know, has appointed special counsel to oversee two of these probes, but yet they refuse to share the documents or any information about them.

Now, it is one thing in an investigation conducted by law enforcement to say: We are going to protect the person being investigated, and we are going to protect the integrity of the investigation by not making that public. We understand that, but this is something far different.

When a current and former President of the United States and a former Vice President of the United States have classified documents in unsecured settings, we need to know who had access to it, what the intelligence reports contain, not because we are curious or we want to interfere with an investigation by the Justice Department but because we have an independent constitutional responsibility to protect the national security of the United States and to protect the intelligence community from unjustified criticism.

Several years ago, the Intelligence Committee investigated Russia's efforts to interfere with the 2016 election. This was a case like now, where special

counsel was appointed, but Congress did not have to wait. It wasn't forced to wait for that inquiry to be completed by former FBI Director Mueller. Those investigations happened concurrently. The special counsel's investigation happened at the same time as the Senate Intelligence Committee's investigation occurred. These investigations—both that of the Intelligence Committee and that of the Department of Justice—should happen concurrently now as well.

As I said last week, the Director of National Intelligence, Director Haines, testified before the Intelligence Committee. I was eager to learn more in a secure setting, protected from public dissemination, what was going on with these documents, what they meant, and who produced them. Were they stale or were they current intelligence? What sort of access did our adversaries have to them, and what did they learn if they did get access to them that we need to know about and prepare for?

I don't think any of our colleagues expected a full analysis of these documents, but I was alarmed by the complete lack of transparency by the Director of National Intelligence to the oversight committees in Congress like the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Without going into detail, Director Haines essentially said that once the Department of Justice initiated its investigation, her office stood down and did not inquire any further as to what these documents contained. So far, the Department of Justice refuses to share details of these intelligence products that were discovered at these unsecured locations.

As I said, we have no idea what is in these documents, who could have seen them, or how big of a risk it creates for national security, but we do need the answers to those questions that only a review in a classified setting in a secure facility by the oversight committees—we need the answers that only that sort of inquiry will reveal.

We could have a major national security risk on our hands or it could be a nothing burger, but the Department needs to be expedient and fully transparent in sharing this information with Congress and the intelligence community, again, in a classified secure setting, not for public dissemination.

If you worry about leaks, which are rampant here in Washington, DC, I must say, the record of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is pretty darn good when it comes to no leaks.

Senator RUBIO and Senator WARNER have been clear that the Department of Justice will not stonewall Congress. This is not a partisan matter. It is not tenable for the position of the Department of Justice and for the Biden administration to take that position. As policymakers with an independent constitutional responsibility, we need to know the full details so we can conduct the risk assessment and determine how best to respond. President Biden's De-

partment of Justice cannot stand in the way of Congress's constitutional oversight role.

Now, many in the press have said: Well, what sort of things might the Senators on the Intelligence Committee do to compel the cooperation of the Department of Justice?

Well, I hope we don't have to go there. I hope this produces a negotiation that will address the concerns both of the Department of Justice and of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. It is well known what sort of tools are available to Congress—things like appropriations, things like nominations—but I sincerely hope it doesn't come to that. But we have a job to do, and we are going to do it, with the cooperation of the Biden administration or without their cooperation.

So all options are on the table to ensure not that we get to see what we want to see for political or other inappropriate reasons but to make sure our national security is not at risk.

Again, this is a bipartisan desire to see these documents and evaluate the risk they could pose to our security. It is time for the administration to cooperate with us in that effort.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider PN62, Roger Israel Zakheim; that the time until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form on the nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider PN61, Joseph Lee Falk; that there be 10 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form on the nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if either nomination is not confirmed, all action with respect to both nominations be vitiated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Roger Israel Zakheim, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON ZAKHEIM NOMINATION

The question is, Shall the Senate advise and consent to the Zakheim nomination?

Ms. DUCKWORTH. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The result was announced—yeas 84, nays 10, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 3 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Fischer	Padilla
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Peters
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Blumenthal	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hassan	Romney
Britt	Heinrich	Rosen
Brown	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Budd	Hirono	Rubio
Cantwell	Hoeven	Schatz
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Carper	Johnson	Shaheen
Casey	Kaine	Sinema
Cassidy	Kelly	Smith
Collins	Kennedy	Stabenow
Coons	King	Sullivan
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Tester
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lujan	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cruz	McConnell	Warner
Daines	Moran	Warnock
Duckworth	Mullin	Warren
Durbin	Murkowski	Welch
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Fetterman	Ossoff	Young

NAYS—10

Braun	Paul	Scott (SC)
Hawley	Sanders	Vance
Lee	Schmitt	
Merkley	Scott (FL)	

NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Lummis	Menendez
Cardin	Markey	Wicker

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING SERGEANT JOHN O'NEAL RUCKER

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, on February 4, 2023, the tight-knit community in Cass County, TX, will gather to solemnly honor the 50th annual remembrance of the end of the Vietnam war and pay tribute to one of its heroes, U.S. Air Force Sergeant John O'Neal Rucker.

Sergeant Rucker grew up in Linden, a town nestled deep in the heart of the piney woods of east Texas. After graduating high school, he answered the call to serve in the Armed Forces and volunteered for the U.S. Air Force.

During his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Sergeant Rucker volunteered for assignment in Southeast Asia. According to the AC-119 Gunship Association, Sergeant Rucker was initially directed to Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, in April 1972. In July of that year, he took a temporary duty assignment to Da Nang, Vietnam, with the 18th Special Operations Squadron.

After spending leave at home in Linden over Christmas 1972, Sergeant Rucker returned to Vietnam with the anticipation that his time on the battlefield would soon come to an end, as the war appeared to be winding down. On January 27, 1973, the 21-year-old Sergeant Rucker was off-duty and asleep in his barracks when rockets struck Da Nang Air Base, instantly taking his life just hours before the Paris Peace Accords took effect, finally ending the Vietnam war. Sergeant Rucker is remembered as one of the last American servicemembers who paid the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

Shortly after his death, a marble plaque to honor Sergeant John O'Neal Rucker was unveiled at Da Nang Air Base in March 1973. Thousands of miles away, his hometown of Linden dedicated a monument to him in November 1973 outside of the Cass County courthouse. Today, Sergeant Rucker's life and legacy remain forever engraved in the hearts and minds of his family, friends, and community.

Texas is home to generations of servicemembers and veterans who have defended our freedoms at home and abroad. Our Nation's rich history has been strengthened by the dutiful serv-

ice and sacrifice of our courageous military women and men, and we owe them our deepest respect and greatest appreciation. May God bless Sergeant John O'Neal Rucker, all of our fallen servicemembers, and their families.

RECOGNIZING THE STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the achievement of the Stennis Center for Public Service's service-oriented students, following the publication of their journal, the "Public Service Review."

For all who are looking for encouragement about the future of our country, I want to bring to your attention the most recently published issues of "Public Service Review," produced by the Stennis Center for Public Service. "Public Service Review" features inspiring and informative stories from young leaders who share in their own words their experiences, insights, hopes, and dreams as they engage in public service through internships, jobs, and activities in their communities and throughout the world.

The publication, available on the Stennis Center's website at www.stennis.gov, provides a glimpse into the future for all who care deeply about the future of American democracy. As they explore the challenges and rewards of public service, the commitment of these young leaders to help keep our Nation strong and free is truly inspirational. The 33 authors featured in the 2022 issues are Adam Duffy of Ohio State University, Alex Siegal of Columbia University, Alexandra Dorotinsky of University of New Haven, Amanda Guilardi of American University, Anna Zmistowski of University of Maine School of Law, Catherine Lawson of Texas A&M University, Jaydn Smith of Hastings College, Owen Rosenberg of American University, Alexandra Schindewolf of Rutgers University, Ava Goble of University of Hawai'i, Ben Savercool of California State University, Chico, Caroline Rykard of University of Georgia, Diana Grechukhina of Salisbury University, Disha Jhaveri of Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Drew Ficociello of George Washington University, MAJ Matt Romanowski of Princeton University and U.S. Army, Ethan Sanders of Oklahoma State University, Jagaar Halverson of Grand Canyon University, Jennifer Rivera Galindo of Florida International University, Kathleen Griffith of University of South Carolina, McKayla Steineke of Northeastern University, Mia Robertson of Mississippi State University, Alanna Cronk of Georgetown University, Mini Ganesh of Harvard College, Natalie Gilbert of Georgetown University, Anum Syed of West Chester University, Avinash Maniam of Rutgers University, Mignely Nunez of Indian University Bloomington, Natalie Salazar of Carnegie Mellon University, Niklas Kleinworth of University of

Idaho, Sydney Smith of Claremont McKenna College, Victoria Izaguirre of Texas A&M University, and Zach Blair-Andrews of University of South Florida.

“Public Service Review” provides these young leaders an opportunity to write about their experiences and inspirations in their own words, sharing stories of challenge and hope as they engage in public service in a variety of formats and focus on a range of causes that draw their passion. Not only do their stories inspire those of us engaged in public service here in Congress and elsewhere, but their experiences provide insights and guidance for younger students as they look for ways to become involved in public service.

On behalf of my colleagues, who I serve with on the Stennis Center Board of Trustees, U.S. Senator ROGER WICKER, Tom Daffron, U.S. Representative TERRI SEWELL, and former U.S. Representative Martha Roby, I commend the Stennis Center for this excellent publication and urge you to read it and share it with others who will benefit from reading these inspiring stories.

RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF THE “FLYING YANKEES”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the 103rd Airlift Wing of the Connecticut Air National Guard—the “Flying Yankees”—as they celebrate 100 years of dedicated service to the State and our Nation.

The Flying Yankees are the 11th oldest Air National Guard unit in the United States, including a squadron that has served more than 90 years in military aviation. Operating from the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby, CT, the 103rd Airlift Wing provides tactical airpower and mission support for the State and Nation. The unit carries out this critical mission through highly qualified and proficient C-130 aircrew.

The 103rd Airlift Wing has a history that dates back to the earliest years of military aviation, and the Flying Yankees have fought bravely in numerous conflicts throughout the last century. From their efforts in France during World War I, to their heroic service in the China-India-Burma theater of operations during World War II, the Flying Yankees have a long history of valiantly serving our Nation both at home and abroad. The unit’s service continued through the Cold War and more recent conflicts. The Flying Yankees innovate to meet the changing needs of the State and the Nation, carrying on their great tradition of dedicated service to this day.

For a century, the brave members of the 103rd Airlift Wing of the Connecticut Air National Guard have embodied their motto—“faithful and alert”—answering the call to service for both Connecticut and the Nation. I applaud their determination and dedication to the vital mission of defending

our country and hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Flying Yankees on this momentous occasion of their 100th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO PEARSON RIDDLE, JR.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great North Carolinian, courageous veteran, and the last living survivor of the Battle of Wake Island: Pearson Riddle, Jr.

Born in Pensacola, NC, on October 15, 1921, Pearson joined the Civilian Conservation Corps at 18 years old upon completing high school. After spending time in Oregon and California learning to operate heavy machinery, he was sent to Hawaii to work for the U.S. Navy and later joined the Wake Island workforce in August 1941 as a general laborer, providing essential support services to U.S. Armed Forces.

On December 8, 1941, Japanese forces commenced a successful siege of Wake Island despite the valiant efforts of marines, sailors, soldiers, and civilians. Pearson was among the hundreds of civilian contractors captured by Japanese forces on December 23, 1941. Forty-four months of grueling captivity and infamous brutality followed.

Pearson was kept on Wake Island until early 1942, when the Japanese forced POWs to board the *Nitta Maru*, which was destined for a prison camp in Woosun, China. After spending 19 months there in forced labor, the Japanese shipped Pearson and hundreds of other POWs to Kobe, Japan, and again to Tokyo where he was imprisoned until a May 1945 Allied bombing destroyed the prison camp. Sent north to Sendai 7-B Hanaoka after the successful Allied bombing, Pearson and the remaining POWs were liberated in September 1945.

Malnourished, ill, and abused, it took Pearson 2 years to make a full recovery, and despite lifelong medical complications from his imprisonment, Pearson never stopped serving. After his service, Pearson went on to build bases around the world, including in north Africa and Iceland.

In 1987, the Navy administratively awarded Pearson the rank of E-4 and evaluated him as a 100 percent wartime service-connected disabled veteran. Seventy-seven years after his liberation, Pearson received the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and American Campaign Medal for his heroic devotion to duty.

Today, we honor Pearson Riddle, Jr.’s valor, service, and commitment to the values and principles of the United States of America. I ask my fellow Senators to join me in saluting Pearson Riddle for his service.

TRIBUTE TO MAYA ASHWAL

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I rise today, with a unique combination of joy, sorrow, and pride. For the last 8

years, Maya Ashwal has been my right arm in the Senate, serving as my director of scheduling and operations in our Washington office.

I rise with joy today because my life and the lives of everyone who works in or with our office has been made better by Maya Ashwal. Maya is this wonderful combination of hard-nosed, no-nonsense grit, and gracious compassion. She brings a seriousness of purpose to her work, but she treats everyone around her with kindness and caring. Over the last 8 years, I watched Maya overcome obstacles that would have swallowed up lesser people. She has persevered through personal loss, finding a way to grow her compassion for others in the face of tragedy. She has conquered a litany of bad health luck, at one point finding herself stuck in South America dealing with a serious health emergency. Somehow, we all knew that Maya would find a way to come back stronger, with a smile on her face.

Through it all, it has been so wonderful to watch her grow as a person. Since she has been with our office, Maya has gotten married to Jeremy and welcomed a gorgeous daughter, Piper, into the world in the middle of the pandemic. She is a wonderful mother, who deftly balances work and family life.

But I also rise with sorrow today, because it is hard for me to imagine life without Maya. My colleagues will understand how a great scheduler or great assistant ends up becoming an extension of you, a part of you. That is what Maya is. She knows my preferences before I speak anything out loud. She guesses what I need before I know I need it. She smooths over bumps and rough spots before they are visible to me.

But she also provides great advice and counsel. I am lucky that we share many passions—like mental health and gun safety—and Maya has become a whip smart political counselor who I rely on to make sure that my daily agenda best aligns with my policy goals. The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act could not have happened without Maya’s leadership. Never before has such a complicated bill been written and passed in such a short amount of time. Over 30 days and countless meetings, zooms, and phone calls—with advocates, Senators, House Members, staff, administration officials—we negotiated, wrote, and passed the most serious gun safety bill in three decades. During that time, Maya was the air traffic controller for the negotiations, managing to create organization out of potential chaos. That bill is part of her legacy.

In addition to her work on policy, Maya has also been such a comfort to my family. Being a parent of young children, with a wife who works equally long hours, is an unsurprising anomaly in the Senate. Maya’s job over the last 8 years has been made infinitely harder since my schedule has had to

balance not just work obligations, but a myriad of sports practices, school events, playdates, and Cub Scout meetings. Never once has Maya balked at my insistence of putting my family first, ahead of the Senate. In fact, she has been instrumental in protecting and supporting my family, continually pushing back against the pressures to put the children second. When my wife Cathy learned of Maya's departure, she audibly gasped. She knew what a loss this would be for our family.

And finally, today, I also feel a ton of pride. I feel pride because Maya is part of what makes the Senate work. She believes that this place is still capable of great things, and she is committed to making our institution live up to its potential. After spending 16 years between our office and the office of former Senator Mark Begich, Maya could have high-tailed it for private sector pastures. But she didn't. She leaves our office to join Senator JOHN FETTERMAN as his new administrative director. The job of standing up a brandnew Senate office is a daunting one, but Maya doesn't shirk from the challenge. She wants the Senate to work, and she is willing to do the hard work to make this possible.

I also feel pride today in who Maya has become while she has worked in our office. As she proudly told me when she informed me of her next move, she has undergone the most important changes in her life during her time with our office. She was amazing when she showed up here, but I would like to think that she is even more amazing today. And maybe the people she has spent the last 8 years with have had a little to do with her growth. I hope she would say this is the case.

I am glad Maya isn't going far. I have a feeling she will be a part of my life and our team members' lives for a long time. I feel joy, sadness, and pride today, all at the same time. But mostly, I just feel lucky that for the last 8 years, I have had Maya Ashwal as my right arm.

TRIBUTE TO AMY BUTTON RENZ

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize the wonderful career of Amy Button Renz.

Like many, Amy began her career in Washington, DC, where she interned for both Senator Bob Dole and Representative Garner Shriver during the summer of 1974. After graduating from Kansas State University in the spring of 1976, Amy came back to DC, where she worked for Senator Roman Hruska until his retirement that December. Her time in public service was not over, as she moved back to Kansas to work for State Senator Ron Hein during the 1977 legislative session.

After her time in the Kansas Statehouse, Amy began her career with the Kansas State University Alumni Association in 1977. She would be named president and CEO of the alumni association in 1994, becoming the first fe-

male alumni director in the history of the Big Eight and later the Big 12 conference. Throughout her career, she has been crucial in the development of programming efforts, most notably as the lead fundraiser for the alumni center building campaign as well as serving as the chair of several search committees that have brought key administrators to Kansas State University. She has raised millions of dollars for student scholarships, and has always put the students of Kansas State University first.

Amy has been recognized for her servant leadership ceaselessly. In 2009 she received the Staley School of Leadership Mike Holen Outstanding Leadership Award, and in 2012 she was selected for the Directors Award by the K-State Marching Band. That same year, she was the recipient of the inaugural Amethyst Award, the University's highest award honoring those for their extraordinary contributions to K-State. Her influence extends past the university, as she was recognized with the Lyle Butler Distinguished Leadership Award from the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce in 2020.

Amy is a third generation K-Stater, and has earned two degrees from the University, a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration. Her husband, Allen, is a K-Stater, as are her three children. Her last day at the Kansas State University Alumni Association will be on June 30th, 2023. Her leadership and devotion will certainly be missed, but always remembered.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Amy's outstanding career, as well as thank her for 45+ years of service to Kansas State University. Amy is a true inspiration to those around her, fighting ever fighting for a wildcat victory.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING QUBILAH JONES

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I rise to honor the life of Qubilah Jones who passed away on December 31, 2022, after a long battle with lymphedema.

Raised in Marianna, AR, Qubilah was called to serve others. She lived in Jonesboro, AR, but her heart touched people far beyond the city limits. Qubilah dedicated herself to her family and her community. She was an active member of Mount Zion Baptist, a published poet, and a passionate community service advocate.

Qubilah launched her broadcasting career as a radio host at the nonprofit radio station KLEK in 2016, where she became known as the Voice of Jonesboro. In this role, she worked to inform the community by conducting hundreds of interviews with nonprofit, faith-based, and government leaders in the region.

Even through her battle with lymphedema, those who knew Qubilah

best said she never let the disease stop her from making a positive difference. She led by example. In 2017, Qubilah was named Volunteer of the Year for the more than 2,000 hours of community service she provided, as well as encouraging others to get involved.

She was an inspiration to many with an official proclamation of Qubilah Jones Day in Jonesboro and her alma mater, Arkansas State University, having lit its library tower pink in her honor serving as evidence of her impact. Her advocacy for awareness and treatment of lymphedema, helped lead to passage of the Lymphedema Treatment Act days before her passing. This law will help support the needs of others living with this condition.

I join Qubilah's family, friends, and countless others in mourning her passing. She has left a tremendous legacy that will last for years to come.●

REMEMBERING QUBILAH JONES

• Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, as the new year began, an exceptional life tragically ended. The State of Arkansas lost a powerful voice and community leader when Qubilah Jones passed away, age 45, after a 14-year battle against lymphedema.

Qubilah was born in Corpus Christi, TX, but her legacy and her heart are in Jonesboro, AR. Qubilah was a daily companion to countless Arkansans as the host of KLEK's "Community Conversations," a morning show where she interviewed hundreds of leaders about faith, government, and community involvement.

Qubilah had a God-given gift for words, and she was a relentless advocate for northeast Arkansas. She was a pillar of her church, New Mount Zion Baptist Church, where she produced the church newspaper. She was a curious soul who returned to education later in life, put in the work, and ultimately earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Arkansas State University and Grand Canyon University. She was the driving force behind community celebrations such as KLEK's award-winning Juneteenth in Jonesboro Celebration. She was a proud and active alumna of her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta. And perhaps above all, she was a loving mother to her son, Quante Jeffrey.

For these accomplishments, and for the more than 2,000 hours of community service that Qubilah performed, the city of Jonesboro named her Volunteer of the Year in 2017.

More incredible still, Qubilah accomplished these things while battling lymphedema, an incurable disease that slowly sapped her mobility and strength. She spoke often on her radio show and podcast about living with a serious illness, providing advice and consolation to those who had their own cross to bear. But even as the disease took its toll on her body, it could not wipe away her warm smile or infectious laughter. Qubilah's sister, Gwen

Henderson, put it well: “as she declined in mobility, she never declined in spirit.”

Qubilah’s battle against disease set her up for one last act of service—one of her greatest. After witnessing the suffering that lymphedema can cause, she became a restless and passionate advocate for the Lymphedema Treatment Act, a bill to ensure that compression treatment items essential to managing the disease are covered by Medicare. I was proud to cosponsor that bill, along with 73 of my Senate colleagues. And on December 23, just 1 week before Qubilah passed from this life, that bill became law. Countless Americans suffering from lymphedema will get needed relief as a result. It is yet another part of Qubilah’s extraordinary legacy of service.

The city of Jonesboro, the State of Arkansas, the U.S. Senate, and all those touched by Qubilah’s words and deeds mourn the loss of the “Voice of Jonesboro.” May she rest in peace.●

TRIBUTE TO GERALD VANDEWALLE

● Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, one of North Dakota’s most distinguished citizens and respected jurists is retiring this week. Justice Gerald W. “Jerry” VandeWalle is leaving the North Dakota Supreme Court as the longest serving justice in the history of the court.

A native of the small northwestern North Dakota community of Noonan, Justice VandeWalle earned his law degree from the University of North Dakota in 1958. He devoted more than 60 years of his legal career working for the citizens of our State. The first 20 years were as an assistant attorney general, prior to his appointment to the supreme court in 1978. In his nearly 45 years on the supreme court, he served 27 of those as chief justice. At the time he relinquished his responsibilities as chief justice in 2020, he was the longest serving chief justice in the entire Nation.

As impressive as these statistics are, the real legacy of Justice VandeWalle is not found in numbers. Instead, it is in the profound impact he made year after year, case after case, as he sought to uphold the law with impartiality in every judicial decision. His warmth and kindness, his engaging optimism, and his humble nature were his everyday demeanor. He was accessible to other state officials, a fierce advocate for the judicial branch before the State legislature, and a revered mentor to lawyers across the State and country.

In the 27 years between 1993 and 2020 when Justice VandeWalle was chief justice, North Dakota experienced notable changes in its population, demographics, economy, and culture. All the while, he kept a steady focus on how North Dakota courts could deliver access to justice for all. He was integral in unifying the court system, redefining state judicial districts and

bringing more judges to accommodate each district’s needs. He addressed emerging technology innovations in courtrooms and expanded court services for population groups like veterans, juveniles, and the elderly.

The judicial impact of Justice Jerry VandeWalle will resonate across our State and Nation for decades to come. Visitors to our State capitol will read about his legendary career next to his portrait in the North Dakota Rough Rider Hall of Fame, the highest honor given to our citizens. Kris and I will miss seeing him at official events and will treasure even more the friendship we shared over the years. On behalf of all North Dakotans, I thank him for his exemplary service and congratulate him on his well-earned retirement. I wish him many years of health and happiness in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO CODY WOOLSTON AND ERIC GOLDSCHMIDT

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize officers Cody Woolston and Eric Goldschmidt for their heroic actions on Monday, October 31, 2022.

On that day, Officers Woolston and Goldschmidt responded to calls of a woman attempting to jump off an overpass on Breckinridge Lane, which runs over a local interstate. When the two officers arrived at the scene, they found a woman standing on top of the barrier and looking over the highway. Officers Woolston and Goldschmidt tried to talk with the woman, but she was wearing headphones and not responding.

When she started to lean more towards the drop, Officer Woolston bravely grabbed her from the barrier, saving her life. The officers then took her to a local hospital to receive help. Upon arrival, she was hesitant to go inside, but Officer Woolston calmly reassured her and took her hand as they walked in together.

As a result of his quick actions that saved a life, Officer Woolston was nominated for a 2023 Rise Award. Officers Woolston and Goldschmidt were also nominated for the Louisville Metro Police Department’s lifesaving award.

Officers Woolston and Goldschmidt are brave servants to the city of Louisville and a true testament to the hard-working Louisville Metro Police Department. I am proud to salute both officers and have no doubt they will continue to be an incredible asset to the citizens of Louisville.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:43 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 21. An act to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas production under oil and gas leases of Federal

lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in conjunction with a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Ms. Matsui of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 7002, the Minority Leader appoints the following individual to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Mr. Jacob S. Helberg of Miami Beach, Florida.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 21. An act to provide for the development of a plan to increase oil and gas production under oil and gas leases of Federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense in conjunction with a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 123. A bill to protect American small businesses, gig workers, and freelancers by repealing the burdensome American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 transactions reporting threshold, and to rescind certain funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-116. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-117. A communication from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency’s Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2022 received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-118. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General’s Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2022 through September 30,

2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-119. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the Peace Corps, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corps' Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-120. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Asset and Transportation Management, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalties Inflation Adjustment" (RIN3090-AK68) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-121. A communication from the Associate Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2022 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-122. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer, Agency for Global Media, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bureau's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2022 received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-123. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 21st Century IDEA 2022 report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-124. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-125. A communication from the Director of the Office of Financial Reporting and Policy, Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "FY 2022 Agency Financial Report"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-126. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the six-month period from April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-127. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-128. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Management Regulation; Physical Security" (RIN3090-AJ94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-129. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pur-

suant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Order Level Material Clarifications" (RIN3090-AK32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-130. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); Clarify Commercial Products and Services Contract Terms and Conditions" (RIN3090-AK18) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-131. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR); GSAR Clause Matrix Update" (RIN3090-AK70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-132. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Travel Regulation; Rental Car Policy Updates and Clarifications" (RIN3090-AK45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 21, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-133. A communication from the Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2021 annual report for the Department's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-134. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Education's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-135. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-637, "Stormiyah Denson-Jackson Economic Damages Equity Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-136. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-638, "Partition of Real Property Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-137. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-639, "Joint Property Protection Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-138. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-640, "Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-139. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-641, "Expanding Fee Waivers for Low-Income Litigants Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-140. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-643, "Paternity Establishment Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-141. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-644, "Enhancing Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-142. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-645, "Child Development Facility Lead Testing Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-143. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-646, "Human Rights Sanctuary Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-144. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-654, "Uniform Power of Attorney Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-145. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-655, "Zero Waste Plastic Products Recycling Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 128. A bill to provide for the assumption of full ownership and control of the International Outfall Interceptor in Nogales, Arizona, by the International Boundary and Water Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. REED, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 129. A bill to ensure due process protections of individuals in the United States against unlawful detention based solely on a protected characteristic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 130. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reauthorize and improve the ReConnect loan and grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 131. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 132. A bill to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 133. A bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 134. A bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KING, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KELLY, Mr. DAINES, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 135. A bill to provide for a period of continuing appropriations in the event of a lapse in appropriations under the normal appropriations process, and establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to enact appropriations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. COONS):

S. 136. A bill to provide a consumer protection framework necessary to support the growth of accessible, affordable, and accountable financing options for postsecondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 137. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Fred Korematsu, in recognition of his contributions to civil rights, his loyalty and patriotism to the United States, and his dedication to justice and equality; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 138. A bill to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 139. A bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 140. A bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 141. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KELLY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 142. A bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 143. A bill to prohibit the provision of Federal funds to certain entities subject to sanctions imposed by the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 144. A bill to require issuers filing annual reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission to disclose whether the issuers have connections with the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 145. A bill to require disclosure by Federal contractors of contracts with Chinese entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 146. A bill to reduce the price of insulin for patients; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 147. A bill to require reporting of suspicious transmissions in order to assist in criminal investigations and counterintelligence activities relating to international terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 148. A bill to enable to Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 149. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to address the responsibilities of fiduciaries with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 150. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit product hopping,

and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 151. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address corrupt practices of the Government of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 152. A bill to prohibit the trading of the securities of certain Communist Chinese military companies on a national securities exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 153. A bill to safeguard certain technology and intellectual property in the United States from export to or influence by the People's Republic of China and to protect United States industry from unfair competition by the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 154. A bill to prevent the theft of catalytic converters and other precious metal car parts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 19. A resolution recognizing the importance of establishing a national "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 9

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 9, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from sending petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China, and for other purposes.

S. 14

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 14, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age, and for other purposes.

S. 75

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 75, a bill to ensure equal treatment for religious organizations in the Federal provision of social services programs, grantmaking, and contracting, and for other purposes.

S. 78

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 78, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 81

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 81, a bill to provide a moratorium on all Federal research grants provided to any institution of higher education or other research institute that is conducting gain-of-function research.

S. 82

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 82, a bill to protect social security benefits and military pay and require that the United States Government to prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

S. 110

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 110, a bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students.

S. 113

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 113, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes.

S. 123

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 123, a bill to protect American small businesses, gig workers, and freelancers by repealing the burdensome American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 transactions reporting threshold, and to rescind certain funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169.

S. CON. RES. 2

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 2, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

S. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. Res. 10, a resolution memorializing the unborn by lowering the United States flag to half-staff on the 22nd day of January each year.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

On Thursday, January 26, 2023, the Senate introduced S. 126 as follows:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 126. A bill to make individuals responsible for undermining free and fair democratic elections inadmissible to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 126

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fortifying Lawful Elections and Democracy Accountability Act of 2023" or the "FLED Accountability Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. INADMISSIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDERMINING FREE AND FAIR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS.

(a) DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of State determines, on the basis of credible information, that an individual who is not a citizen of the United States knowingly took significant action to inhibit or attempt to inhibit, while serving as an official of the government of a foreign country, the lawful democratic transition of power or the lawful functioning of democratic electoral processes in that country, the Secretary shall designate the individual as inadmissible to the United States as described in subsection (b).

(2) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall publicly or privately designate under paragraph (1) an individual about whom the Secretary has made a determination under that paragraph without regard to whether the individual has applied for a visa.

(b) INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—

(1) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS AND ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.—An individual designated under subsection (a) is—

(A) inadmissible to the United States;

(B) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(C) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(2) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other entry documentation of any individual designated under subsection (a) is subject to revocation regardless of the issue date of the visa or other entry documentation.

(B) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) take effect immediately; and

(ii) cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the possession of the individual.

(3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—This subsection shall not apply with respect to an individual if admitting or paroling the individual into the United States is necessary to permit the

United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(c) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the application of subsection (b) with respect to an individual designated under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is in the national interest of the United States.

(d) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the committees specified in paragraph (3) a report—

(A) identifying individuals designated under subsection (a) during the year preceding submission of the report;

(B) listing the waivers issued under subsection (c) during that year; and

(C) setting forth a justification for each such waiver.

(2) FORM OF REPORT; AVAILABILITY.—

(A) FORM.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(B) AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified portion of each report required by paragraph (1) shall posted on a publicly accessible website of the Department of State.

(3) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees specified in this paragraph are—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to apply to actions taken—

(1) to provide assistance to promote democratic elections or public participation in democratic processes; or

(2) to support a democratic transition.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 130. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reauthorize and improve the ReConnect loan and grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 130

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rural Internet Improvement Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. STREAMLINING BROADBAND AUTHORITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and inserting "RECONNECT PROGRAM";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

"(3) RECONNECT PROGRAM.—The term 'ReConnect Program' means the program established under this section.";

(3) in subsection (c)—
 (A) in paragraph (2)(A)—
 (i) in clause (i)—
 (I) in subclause (I), by striking “10-Mbps” and inserting “25-Mbps”; and
 (II) in subclause (II), by striking “1-Mbps” and inserting “3-Mbps”; and
 (ii) by striking clause (iv) and inserting the following:
 “(iv) give priority to applications from applicants that have demonstrated the technical and financial experience required to construct and operate broadband networks.”; and
 (B) by adding at the end the following:
 “(5) APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish an application process for grants, loans, and loan guarantees under this section that—
 “(A) reduces the amount of data required to apply by limiting the required data to only—
 “(i) the entity applying, excluding any parent or affiliate entity that is not a party to the application, to the greatest extent practicable; and
 “(ii) the geographic area affected by the application, if a parent or affiliate is not a party to the application;
 “(B) simplifies the data interfaces for submission to the greatest extent practicable; and
 “(C) allows all applicants, regardless of whether an applicant is publicly traded, to rely on a bond rating of at least investment grade (when bond ratings are available) in place of financial documentation.”;
 (4) in subsection (d)—
 (A) in paragraph (1)—
 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “subsection (j)” and inserting “subsection (1)”;
 and
 (ii) by adding at the end the following:
 “(C) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary—
 “(i) shall not restrict the eligibility of an entity for a grant under this section based on the legal structure of the entity;
 “(ii) shall allow entities to apply for a grant under this section without regard to, or preference for, the legal structure of an entity;
 “(iii) in determining the financial ability of an entity to carry out a project using a grant under this section, shall allow the entity to demonstrate that financial ability by methods that—
 “(I) the Secretary determines to be the least burdensome; and
 “(II) subject to clause (v), are not limited to providing the Federal Government an exclusive first lien on all grant-funded assets during the service obligation of the grant;
 “(iv) subject to clause (v), in determining the required collateral to secure grant funds or to secure performance during the service obligation of a grant, shall allow an awardee to offer alternative security, such as a letter of credit, in lieu of providing the Federal Government an exclusive first lien on all grant-funded assets; and
 “(v) if the Secretary reasonably determines that alternative methods or alternative security established under clause (iii)(II) or (iv) are insufficient to secure performance with respect to a project under this section—
 “(I) may require an entity to provide the Federal Government an exclusive first lien on all grant-funded assets during the service obligation of the grant; and
 “(II) shall release that lien after the Secretary determines that the entity is performing to the satisfaction of the Secretary.”; and
 (B) in paragraph (2)—
 (i) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “50” and inserting “90”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:
 “(D) OBLIGATIONS TO PROVIDE BROADBAND SERVICE IN THE SAME SERVICE TERRITORY.—
 “(i) DEFINITION OF BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘broadband infrastructure’ means any cables, fiber optics, wiring, or other permanent infrastructure that is integral to the structure, including fixed wireless infrastructure, that—
 “(I) is capable of providing access to internet connections in individual locations; and
 “(II) offers an advanced telecommunications capability (as defined in section 706(d) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (47 U.S.C. 1302(d))).
 “(ii) OTHER PROVIDERS.—The Secretary shall consider a proposed service territory with respect to which an eligible entity submits an application to carry out a project under this section to be served by broadband service if a broadband service provider other than that eligible entity is subject to an obligation by a Federal, State, or local government entity to build broadband infrastructure and offer broadband service in that service territory, subject to conditions—
 “(I) under a Federal, State, or local funding award program; or
 “(II) otherwise required by the Federal, State, or local government entity.
 “(iii) OTHER FUNDING.—Subject to clause (iv), the Secretary shall not be required to consider a proposed service territory with respect to which an eligible entity submits an application to carry out a project under this section to be served by broadband service if that eligible entity has accepted an obligation under a Federal, State, or local funding award program to build broadband infrastructure and offer broadband service in that service territory, if the proposed project under this section—
 “(I) would not be duplicative of the obligation under the other award program; and
 “(II) would build broadband infrastructure that results in faster speeds or expedited milestones of deployment of broadband infrastructure in that service territory, as compared to the obligation under the other award program.
 “(iv) OTHER OBLIGATIONS FOR LOWER TRANSMISSION CAPACITY.—The Secretary shall consider a proposed service territory with respect to which an eligible entity submits an application to carry out a project under this section to be unserved by broadband service if an obligation under another award program described in clause (iii) would not provide broadband service of at least—
 “(I) a 25-Mbps downstream transmission capacity; and
 “(II) a 3-Mbps upstream transmission capacity.
 “(E) REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING.—
 “(i) AFFILIATE OWNED AND OPERATED NETWORKS.—A grant, loan, or loan guarantee under this section may be used to construct networks that will be owned and operated by an affiliate of the eligible entity receiving the grant, loan, or loan guarantee, subject to the condition that the eligible entity, the affiliate, or both, as the Secretary determines to be necessary, shall provide adequate security for the grant, loan, or loan guarantee.
 “(ii) NEGATIVE COVENANTS AND CONDITIONS.—To the greatest extent practicable, a project carried out using a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under this section shall not add any new negative covenants or conditions to the grant, loan, or loan guarantee agreement that were not previously disclosed to the eligible entity at the time of application for the grant, loan, or loan guarantee.
 “(iii) OWNERSHIP OF SYSTEMS.—
 “(I) IN GENERAL.—A network constructed with a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under

this section may be transferred to an unaffiliated provider that agrees—
 “(aa) to assume the service obligation; and
 “(bb) to provide appropriate and sufficient security for that network.
 “(II) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall not unreasonably withhold consent to enter into an appropriate agreement described in subclause (I) with the transferee based on an evaluation by the Secretary of the ability of the transferee to assume the agreement and provide security described in item (bb) of that subclause.
 “(iv) REPORTING AND AUDITING.—The Secretary shall—
 “(I) simplify, to the maximum extent practicable, ongoing reporting and auditing requirements for recipients of a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under this section; and
 “(II) allow a recipient described in subclause (I) whose financial information is consolidated with the financial information of a parent entity to rely on that consolidated financial information in complying with the requirements described in that subclause if the parent entity is providing a guarantee on behalf of a subsidiary of the parent entity with respect to the grant, loan, or loan guarantee.
 “(v) PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING.—The Secretary—
 “(I) shall simplify, to the maximum extent practicable, requirements for recipients of a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under this section relating to the procurement of materials and retention of contractors; and
 “(II) shall not unreasonably restrict the ability of a recipient described in subclause (I) to obtain goods and services from affiliated entities.”;
 (5) in subsection (e)(1)—
 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “25-Mbps” and inserting “100-Mbps”; and
 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “3-Mbps” and inserting “20-Mbps”;
 (6) by redesignating subsections (j) and (k) as subsections (l) and (m), respectively;
 (7) by inserting after subsection (i) the following:
 “(j) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this section in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code.
 “(k) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Rural Internet Improvement Act of 2023, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Secretary shall—
 “(1) publish a report describing—
 “(A) the distribution of amounts made available under the ReConnect Program for the preceding year;
 “(B) the number of locations at which broadband service was made available using amounts under the ReConnect Program for the preceding year;
 “(C) the number of locations described in subparagraph (B) at which broadband service was used; and
 “(D) the highest level of broadband service made available at each location described in subparagraph (B); and
 “(2) submit the report described in paragraph (1) to—
 “(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;
 “(B) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;
 “(C) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and
 “(D) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.”; and
 (8) in subsection (l) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1), by striking “\$350,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “such sums as are necessary for each fiscal year”.

(b) SUNSET.—Beginning on the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 399), shall have no force or effect.

(c) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS.—The unobligated balance, as of the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, of any amounts made available to carry out the pilot program described in section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 399)—

(1) is transferred to, and merged with, amounts made available to carry out section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb); and

(2) shall remain available, until expended, and without further appropriation, to carry out the ReConnect Program established under that section.

(d) EFFECT.—Title VI of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 607. EFFECT.

“Nothing in this title authorizes the Secretary to regulate rates charged for broadband service.”.

(e) PUBLIC NOTICE, ASSESSMENTS, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 701 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950cc) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “, including a complete shapefile map” after “applicant”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(D), by striking “(c)” and inserting “(d)”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e) as subsections (c) through (f), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) CHALLENGE PROCESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a transparent, evidence based, and expeditious process for challenging, with respect to any area for which assistance is sought under an application described in subsection (a)(1), whether that area has access to broadband service.

“(2) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall make publicly available on the website of the Department of Agriculture a written notice describing—

“(A) the decision of the Secretary on each challenge submitted under paragraph (1); and

“(B) the reasons for each decision described in subparagraph (A).”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELIGIBLE FUNDING AREAS.—Prior to making available to the public the database under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make available to the public a fully searchable database on the website of the Rural Utilities Service that contains information on areas eligible for assistance under retail broadband projects that are administered by the Secretary in accordance with the maps created by the Federal Communications Commission under section 802(c)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 642(c)(1)).”.

(f) FEDERAL BROADBAND PROGRAM COORDINATION.—Section 6212 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 950bb-6) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) as subsections (b), (c), (e), and (a), respectively, and moving the subsections so as to appear in alphabetical order;

(2) in subsection (a) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (3), by striking “section 601(b)(3) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936” and inserting “section 601(b) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb(b))”;

(3) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) RECONNECT PROGRAM.—On awarding a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under the ReConnect Program established under section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb), the Secretary shall notify the Commission of that award.”; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(d) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RELATING TO OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Assistant Secretary and the Commission to facilitate outreach to residents and businesses in rural areas, including—

“(1) to evaluate the broadband service needs in rural areas;

“(2) to inform residents and businesses in rural areas of available Federal programs that promote broadband access, broadband affordability, and broadband inclusion; and

“(3) for such additional goals as the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Commission determine to be appropriate.”.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 133. A bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 134. A bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce two bills aimed at continuing the important progress we are making to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease. I know how devastating this disease is to our families. My father, grandfather, and two uncles all died from Alzheimer's. I am committed to this effort both as a person whose beloved family members have suffered from this terrible disease, as well as a Senator concerned about the impact on our families and our healthcare system.

When I founded the Congressional Alzheimer's Task Force in the Senate in 1999, there was virtually no focus on Alzheimer's in Washington. Twelve years ago, I coauthored the bipartisan National Alzheimer's Project Act with my colleague Senator Evan Bayh. Before we passed that legislation, there was no coordinated, strategic, national plan to focus our efforts to defeat Alzheimer's. NAPA fixed this by convening a panel of experts to create a coordinated strategic national plan to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025. The expert council updates the plan annually.

While the 2025 goal has been elusive, we have made some progress in our efforts to find a treatment and a means of prevention. Nevertheless, Alzheimer's remains the fifth leading cause of death in the United States for people over 65. In addition to the human costs, caring for people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias is one of the costliest conditions to society, costing our Nation an astonishing \$321 billion per year, including \$206 billion in Medicare and Medicaid spending. If we continue along this trajectory, Alzheimer's is projected to claim the minds of 12.7 million seniors and nearly surpass \$1 trillion in annual costs by 2050.

It takes a tremendous toll on families too. In 2021, family caregivers provided 16 billion hours of unpaid care for loved ones with dementia, a contribution to society valued at more than \$271 billion. That job is often 24/7 and often harms the health of the caregiver.

The first bill I am introducing today with my colleagues Senators WARNER, CAPITO, MARKEY, MORAN, MENENDEZ, MURKOWSKI, and STABENOW is the NAPA Reauthorization Act. This bill would reauthorize the National Alzheimer's Project Act through 2035 and modernize the legislation to reflect strides we have made in understanding the disease, such as including a new focus on promoting healthy aging and reducing risk factors. The National Alzheimer's Project Act is set to expire in 2025. We need to reauthorize this critical legislation this Congress in order to ensure that our research investments remain coordinated and there are no disruptions as we maximize the impact of our investments.

The second bill I am introducing with my colleagues Senators MARKEY, CAPITO, WARNER, MORAN, MENENDEZ, MURKOWSKI, and STABENOW is the Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act. This bill would continue through 2035 a requirement that the Director of the National Institutes of Health submit an annual budget to Congress estimating the funding necessary for NIH to fully implement NAPA's research goals. Only two other areas of biomedical research—cancer and HIV/AIDS—have been the subject of special budget development aimed at speeding discovery, and this “bypass budget,” as it is known, helps us to understand what additional funding is needed to find better treatments, a means of prevention, and ultimately a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

Nearly half of baby boomers reaching age 85 will either be afflicted with Alzheimer's or caring for someone who has it. In many ways, Alzheimer's is the defining disease of this generation. We have made tremendous progress in recent years to boost funding for Alzheimer's research, most recently providing \$3.74 billion—a \$226 million increase—for NIH Alzheimer's research in the fiscal year 2023 government funding bill. This investment holds

great promise to ending this disease that has had such a devastating effect on millions of Americans and their families, but we must keep up this momentum. The two bills I introduce today will make sure that we do not take our foot off the pedal just as our investments in basic research are beginning to translate into potential new treatments. We must not let Alzheimer's define our children's generation as it has ours.

I urge my colleagues to support the NAPA Reauthorization Act and Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act, and I thank the Alzheimer's Association and UsAgainstAlzheimer's for their support of this bipartisan legislation to help improve the lives of those affected by Alzheimer's throughout the country.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 19—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL "FRED KOREMATSU DAY OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE CONSTITUTION"

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 19

Whereas Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu was born on January 30, 1919, in Oakland, California, to Japanese immigrant parents;

Whereas Fred Korematsu attempted to enlist in the United States National Guard and the United States Coast Guard after the United States entered World War II and was rejected because of his Japanese ancestry;

Whereas after the signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, which authorized the forced imprisonment of 120,000 people of Japanese descent into prison camps, the majority of whom were American citizens, Fred Korematsu resisted that infringement of American civil liberties and attempted to continue his life as an American citizen until he was arrested, convicted, and incarcerated at a concentration camp in Topaz, Utah;

Whereas, in 1944, Fred Korematsu appealed his case to the United States Supreme Court, which ruled against him, declaring in *Korematsu v. United States* that Japanese incarceration was a "military necessity" rather than an egregious act of racial discrimination;

Whereas, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter created the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), which concluded in 1983 that the forced removal and imprisonment of people of Japanese ancestry was motivated by "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership";

Whereas during this time, researchers at the University of California, San Diego uncovered documents from the United States Department of Justice in which intelligence agencies, including the FBI, the FCC, and

the Office of Naval Intelligence, denied that Japanese-Americans ever committed wrongdoing, but which were never presented to the United States Supreme Court during *Korematsu v. United States*;

Whereas following the conclusion of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and the findings on governmental misconduct, Fred Korematsu reopened his case, and on November 10, 1983, the United States District Court of Northern California in San Francisco overturned his conviction;

Whereas Fred Korematsu's courageously fought injustice by challenging the constitutionality of Executive Order 9066, and his lawsuit remains an important lesson about the fragility of individual civil liberties during a time when the Nation is experiencing threats to its national security;

Whereas Fred Korematsu continued to fight injustice and defend the liberties of Muslim people when, in 2003, he warned in an amicus brief that the United States extreme national security measures following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, were reminiscent of the mistakes of the past that undermined American civil liberties, including the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798, the suspension of habeas corpus during the Civil War, the prosecution of dissenters during World War I, the Red Scare of 1919–1920, the internment of people of Japanese descent during World War II, and the era of loyalty oaths and McCarthyism during the Cold War;

Whereas the democratic character of the American people will be nourished and enhanced by opportunities for civic education on the significant challenges that have been posed to our Constitution;

Whereas a day of annual national reflection on how the Fred Korematsu quest for justice is important to educating the American people about preserving civil liberties and the principle of equality before the law; and

Whereas the States of California, Florida, Hawaii, Virginia, and Arizona have already designated January 30 as Fred Korematsu Day to commemorate his lifelong fight for civil liberties and the Constitution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of establishing a national "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution"; and

(2) encourages all people to reflect on the importance of political leadership and vigilance and on the values of justice and civil rights during times of uncertainty and emergency.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 93–642, appoints the following Senator to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: the Honorable JERRY MORAN, of Kansas; The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada–U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 118th Congress: the Honorable MICHAEL D. CRAPO, of Idaho; The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to the provisions of 20 U.S.C., sections 42 and 43, re-appoints the following Senator as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: the Honorable JOHN

BOOZMAN, of Arkansas; The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appoints the following Member to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: the Honorable JEFF MERKLEY, of Oregon (Co-Chairman).

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, January 31; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the Republican caucus meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of the Senate, no rollcall votes are expected during Tuesday's session.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SCOTT of South Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from South Carolina.

POLICING IN AMERICA

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, yesterday on ABC's "This Week," Senator DURBIN asked Senator BOOKER and me to come back to the table and start talking about policing in America.

I never left the table, but it was Senator DURBIN who filibustered my JUSTICE Act. It was Senator DURBIN who called the effort to make deescalation training more available a "token" piece of legislation. It was indeed the Senator from Illinois who said that aspects of my JUSTICE Act which talked about the importance of the duty to intervene was a "token" piece of legislation.

In that legislation we had more resources for more training because we want only the best wearing the badge in every location, in every municipality, in every county, and in every State in this great Nation. But politics too often gets in the way in doing what every American knows is common sense, and here we find ourselves, again, having this same conversation with no action having happened so far.

I don't speak on this floor very often, but this is my 10th speech on policing

in America in 8 years—the 10th time I have asked for something that will make our officers better and safer and make our communities better and safer. It is another time I have asked for more resources for recruitment so that we can have only the best wearing the badge, but this legislative body—the greatest deliberative body in the world—didn't act.

It was in 2015, shortly after the shooting of Walter Scott, who was shot in the back in my hometown of Charleston, SC, that I came to this floor to ask for more resources for body-worn cameras so that we capture what happens during those vital times, and not a single Democrat cosponsored that legislation.

I came back a year later, in 2016, and gave three speeches on the importance of policing in America.

In 2020, on June 17, I introduced the JUSTICE Act with more requests for what I believe is common sense. It was 70 percent of what the House Democrats were asking for. We, on our side of the aisle, said: This makes sense. Why don't we find common ground in that 70 percent, make it into a piece of legislation and show the American people that, yes, their elected officials can, at times, act with common sense—because my assumption was that common ground leads to common sense.

Imagine my disappointment when the duty to intervene, deescalation training, more resources, more reporting so that we have eyes around the country was filibustered in this Chamber with not enough votes to even extend the conversation on the important issue of policing in America.

I came back just a week later, on June 24, standing on this floor asking

our body to take seriously our responsibility on the important topic of policing in America. What I said that day on June 24, 2020, was that “there is trouble coming.” I referred to the Good Book, the Bible, and reflected on Ezekiel 33:6 that says that when you see trouble coming and you say nothing, you do nothing, the blood that comes is on your hands. But if you shout from the mountaintops, if you warn the people that trouble is coming, it is not on your hands.

Mr. President, our Nation is reeling. People—Republicans, Democrats, Independents, nonaffiliates, Black folks, White folks, rich folks, poor folks, Southerners, Northerners, the west coast and the east coast—are sick and tired of politics as usual.

We, as a nation, deserve better. We should be able to build a coalition around the common ground of, yes, we need more training on deescalation; yes, we need more resources and training on the duty to intervene; yes, we need more grants; and yes, we need the best wearing the badge.

We should have simple legislation that we can agree upon that has been agreed upon in the past, but too often too many are too concerned with who gets the credit.

I know that when a conservative Republican starts talking about policing in America, some people seem to just turn the channel. That is wrong.

When I came to the floor and talked about my many unnecessary incidents with the police; when I came to the floor and talked about the man, Walter Scott, shot in my city; when I came to this floor on June 17 and talked about the massacre at Mother Emanuel Church in my hometown—I take the

issue of policing in America seriously. I want our body to see it not as an issue of Republicans versus Democrats but as good people standing in the gap, elected to do a job that we all ran to do. Let's do our jobs.

We can make a difference in this Nation. Had the duty to intervene been law of the land on the Federal level, it could have made a difference in Memphis, TN. In Wisconsin, more deescalation training could make a difference.

I hope that when the dust settles and the issue is no longer on the front pages of our newspapers, no longer streaming across our TVs and our iPads and our computers, that we do something that says to the American people: We see your pain. We are willing to put our partisan labels and shirts and uniforms on the side so that we can do what needs to be done. That is what the people deserve.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:40 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 30, 2023:

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

ROGER ISRAEL ZAKHEIM, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MOH SHARMA AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Moh Sharma for her tireless work for the House Judiciary Committee.

Within the U.S. House of Representatives, Moh is an institution. Prior to serving on the Committee, Moh worked for Representative JUDY CHU of California, the Democratic Caucus under then-Chairman Xavier Becerra, and the House Small Business Committee under then-Ranking Member NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ. In each of those jobs, with kindness and care, Moh made certain that her members were prepared for every hearing, every markup, and every trip to the House floor. She dispensed sage advice along with fact sheets, issue briefs, and summaries of floor activity. There is virtually no Democratic office in the House that has not worked with her on some project, and everyone with whom she has worked walks away impressed by her calm and her expertise.

And, of course, Moh has been a mentor and role model to an entire generation of staffers on Capitol Hill. Over the years, she has served in various leadership positions within the Congressional Asian Pacific American Staff Association, including as its president from 2013 to 2019 and as the founder of its advisory board. A graduate of the City University of New York School of Law, she has also served as president of the South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C. and remains on its board today.

Underlying these achievements is a steady commitment to diversity, inclusion, and opportunity for all who would make America their home.

Moh came to the Committee in 2019 to help with, and eventually to direct, our member services operation. As a member of my senior staff and one of the Committee's most trusted advisors, she oversaw our legislative agenda, whipped our markups, and managed our activity on the House floor.

Moh seemed to know where every one of our members could be found at any moment we might need them—no small feat in the COVID-19 era—and managed to cajole more than one of us back into the hearing room for a key moment in a markup. This past Congress, no vote in our hearing room was taken without Moh first accounting for every member of the Committee, and no vote was gavelled closed without a knowing nod from Moh to the Chair.

The quality of her work is evident. I know—from a report that Moh herself compiled—that, in the 117th Congress alone, our Committee marked up more than 100 bills, passed more than 100 bills on the House floor, and sent

over 40 bills to President Biden for his signature. We owe every one of these victories, in no small part, to Moh's patience and persistence.

Moh is not traveling far. She has joined the office of Democratic Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES, and the Committee's loss is most definitely the Leader's gain.

Nevertheless, we will miss Moh very much. I thank her for her service to the Committee and I look forward, very much, to watching her contribute to the cause for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF RICHARD WADE CARTER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and service of Richard Wade Carter of Sherman, Texas. Mr. Carter is survived by his wife Malinda, daughter Melanie Grammar and her husband Don, stepson Jack Hopper and his wife Merry, and his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Richard is preceded by his parents and his brother, Daniel Wayne Carter.

Mr. Carter was born to Roscoe Stanley Carter and Beatrice Jackson Carter in Dallas, Texas, on December 15, 1931. A native of Oak Cliff, Texas, he graduated from Dallas High School. Richard later joined the United States Army in June 1956. Richard was stationed in Korea and Japan during his military service, where his fondness for Asian art and culture grew.

On November 21, 1972, Richard married the love of his life, Malinda Ann Stewman, in Garland, Texas, where they resided for many years. Richard and Malinda enjoyed traveling together and exploring new restaurants, with Mexican cuisine being Richard's favorite. Moreover, he loved fishing, photography, and working with his hands. A lifelong Republican, Richard was a loving husband and father, and celebrated his 50th anniversary with Malinda in November 2022. Richard was a devout churchgoer and a frequent attendee of the Cliff Temple Baptist Church in Oak Cliff, Texas.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mr. Carter's extraordinary life and devotion to his passions. Richard will be greatly missed by his friends, family, and colleagues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I was unreasonably detained during the roll call vote

for an amendment offered by Mr. Schneider that would prohibit the leasing plan from including the Great Lakes. This amendment would support preserving the status quo that has been in place in the Great Lakes for two decades.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 64.

HONORING THE MISHAWAKA HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM FOR WINNING THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a special group of Hoosiers who recently made their hometown very proud.

Earlier this month the Mishawaka Cavemen won the 3A state title in wrestling for the fourth time in school history. Their return as state champions was 13 years in the making for the Cavemen. And it wasn't easy.

To take home the title, the Cavemen first had to go through defending champs Columbus East, which they did on their way to an exhilarating 43-31 win. As Head Coach Steven Sandefer said: "You have to wrestle for the guy next to you."

It's the kind of team-first mindset every wrestler embraced wholeheartedly. It's a big part of why they and the Mishawaka community are celebrating. I know it's an attitude that will serve these young men well in their future careers and family lives.

I know one more thing: that approach—of rallying to pick up a teammate when they're down—is something that our country could use a whole lot more of.

Congratulations to Coach Sandefer, his dedicated staff, and all the wrestlers on their big win. Their names are listed below:

The members of the varsity who wrestled in the state finals:

Brody Blevins; Beau Brabender; Christian Chavez; Xavier Chavez; Trey Dunning; Josh Kite; Will Mason; Zander Paden; Chris Peacock; Courtney Rider; Mikey Robles; Gunnar Sandefer; Isaac Valdez; Zar Walker; Caiden Williams; Trevor Wendt.

Managers:

Mia Mason; Rayleigh Dodd; Abbi Holloway; Lilianna Meyers; Lylee-Anah Boyer.

Coaches:

Head Coach Steve Sandefer; Fabian Chavez; Josh Olsen; Yancy Gradeless; Adam Sandefur; Brandon Dillenbeck; Collin Meggison.

God Bless and go Cavemen.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on passage of H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act (Roll Call No. 94). By allowing registered open-end investment companies to delay the redemption of a security if the request was believed to be the result of financial exploitation, this bill protects American's hard-earned savings. Should this legislation become public law, it will bolster our financial security by preventing abuse of seniors and vulnerable adults.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DEACON KENNETH JEROME
GAINES**HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Deacon Kenneth Jerome Gaines. Deacon Gaines, known as Kenny to those closest to him, unfortunately passed away on January 15, 2023. Kenny was a loving, caring, and kind-hearted family man. He was married to the love of his life, Cassandra L. Covington, and deeply loved their children April and Gerard.

Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Kenny was educated in Detroit Public Schools and honorably served his country in the Army. After his service, Kenny went to trade school and took classes in painting, plumbing, and cooking. Kenny eventually started his own business, "Kenny's Car Wash!", which remained his pride and joy until his passing.

Kenny's faith was a fundamental part of his life, including his relationships with the City Temple Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the True Faith in God's Temple. Later, he became a member of St. John's Tabernacle, NPC where he served faithfully as a deacon, cook, and a member of the men's choir.

Deacon Gaines remained committed to serving his community throughout his life, including volunteering at the Mathis Community Center. He often spent time helping the "Young-Men-In-Motion" mentorship program, serving at the annual Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway, and contributing to the development of the community garden that provides free vegetables to residents. Kenny's dedication to serving others was a constant through his life.

Kenny leaves cherished memories behind to those who love him most and my sympathies are with his family.

RECOGNIZING SLADE BOND AND
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JU-
DICIARY COMMITTEE**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with Rep. DAVID CICILLINE, longtime Chair of the

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, to thank Slade Bond for his service to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Slade came to the Committee after serving as legislative counsel to Representative Hank Johnson. Prior to that, Slade was a law clerk for the Center for Democracy and Technology. Slade received his B.A. from Mary Washington College, his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law, and his LL.M. from the George Washington University Law School.

Slade joined the Committee in March 2014, serving as Democratic Counsel and then Chief Democratic Counsel for the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law. For the past 4 years, Slade has served as Chief Counsel for the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law.

Throughout his service on the Committee, Slade has provided Members and staff with strategic advice and leadership on a range of legal and policy issues related to competition, bankruptcy, arbitration, commercial contracts, and federal agencies. Slade also has acted as a generous mentor and advisor for junior colleagues on the Committee, setting an example as a superlative staff member.

During his tenure as Chief Counsel for the Antitrust Subcommittee, Slade applied his keen intellect, conscientiousness, and creativity to advance the priorities of the Subcommittee. Slade supervised staff and led Member preparation for over two dozen hearings and markups, including a 29-hour markup that resulted in Committee passage of a suite of six bills to restore competition online.

Notable among his many accomplishments is his leadership of a historic, 16-month, top-to-bottom investigation of competition in digital markets. Slade assembled a dedicated team of counsels, technologists, fellows, special assistants, and clerks to examine the dominance of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google in the digital economy. He coordinated and supervised the team's review of nearly 1.3 million documents; interviews with more than 240 market participants, former employees of the investigated platforms, and other individuals; and holding of 7 hearings with testimony from 38 witnesses, including a hearing with the CEOs of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google. In addition, Slade cowrote, and managed the drafting of, the culmination of this investigation: a 450-page report entitled "Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets: Majority Staff Report and Recommendations," which the Committee adopted in April 2021 and published in June 2022.

Slade has developed a well-earned reputation for his excellent work with Members and staff from both parties, in both the House and the Senate, to shepherd important bills into law. These bills include legislation to reduce the cost of antitrust enforcement to taxpayers by modernizing merger filing fees, to protect our national security by requiring merging parties to disclose subsidies from foreign economic adversaries, to preserve the resources of state antitrust enforcers by exempting state enforcement of the federal antitrust laws from private multidistrict litigation, and to prohibit the enforceability of predispute arbitration agreements and non-disclosure agreements related to sexual-assault or sexual-harassment disputes.

The Committee, and Congress, will greatly miss Slade, but we look forward to working with him in his new role as Deputy Assistant

Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legislative Affairs.

We thank Slade for his tireless work ethic, acute attention to detail, impeccable work product, and enthusiasm for the mission of the Committee to ensure economic justice for American consumers, workers, and small businesses.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE
QUENTIN "Q" SOLDIER WIL-
LIAMS**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, the City of Middletown and the State of Connecticut lost one of its brightest lights earlier this month with the tragic passing of State Representative Quentin "Q" Soldier Williams just hours after being sworn in for what would have been his third term as a State Representative representing Middletown in Connecticut's General Assembly. At only thirty-nine years old, Q was taken from us much too soon, and his loss reverberates throughout his community and our state.

When running for President, Barack Obama said, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." I cannot think of anyone who embodied that spirit more than Q.

Born and raised in Middletown, Connecticut Q loved his hometown. When he first returned after graduating from Bryant University, he worked in finance where he developed a sense of how that industry could positively impact communities as well as how important it was for young people to better understand how a strong financial footing would help them succeed. He left the finance industry to become the Executive Director of the Middletown's Downtown Business District where he focused his time and energies on advocating for local business owners and finding innovative ways to encourage increased activity and tourism downtown.

In tandem with these first professional steps, Q also began his journey into politics when he returned home from Bryant. Always seeking ways to make a difference and knowing influencing local government was key, Q joined the Middletown Young Democrats and the Middletown Democratic Town Committee. He was soon recruited to run for local office—first as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which he eventually chaired, then as City Treasurer, a position in which he served for two terms. One of Q's proudest moments was on the evening of his election to his first term as State Representative for the 100th District, where he would represent his beloved hometown.

Q was a proud product of the Middletown public school system, where as an adult he could often be found reading with elementary school students and mentoring those in middle and high school, but he also understood the challenges of urban classrooms and minority students. He found true professional fulfillment when he joined Excellence Community

Schools as their Director for Advocacy and Policy where he played an instrumental role in the launch of Stamford Charier School for Excellence. His passion for equality in education also led Q to co-found and serve as the co-director of EquityCT, a nonprofit dedicated to creating learning opportunities, building actionable understanding of equity, and dismantling systemic inequity through action and civic engagement.

In addition to his professional and political work, Q was also deeply involved in the community itself. He sat on the Board of Directors for numerous community organizations, like the Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater, the Middletown Substance Abuse Action Council, the Middlesex United Way, and the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition to name just a few. He also volunteered his time and energies to local charitable efforts like the Community Foundation of Middlesex County Live Local Give Local 365 Fund, the Middlesex Chamber of Congress Young Professional Alliance, and the Columbus House Chocolate to the Rescue event. He was an active member of the Cross Street AME Zion Church and, most recently, Q proudly crossed the line, becoming a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.—Beta Sigma Lambda Chapter.

Former First Lady Michele Obama once said, “People who are truly strong lift others up. People who are truly powerful bring others together.” By those definitions, Q Williams was one of the strongest, most powerful people I have ever had the honor to know. Whether it was a student, local business owner, constituent, family member, friend, or new acquaintance, he sought to open doors of opportunity, to help in any way he could. He would always ask, “how can I help you?” He saw the potential in everyone and in everything, developing networks and connections that enabled him to connect the right people with each other so that potential could be realized. With every smile, every laugh, every action, and every word, he raised others up and brought people together. It was extraordinary to witness.

Q had the widest smile and the most gregarious laugh for which he will always be remembered. Though still so young, he touched countless lives and hearts through his commitment and love for his community. As someone recently so eloquently put, the Honorable Quentin “Q” Soldier Williams will forever be Middletown’s favorite son. As we continue to grieve his loss, I extend my deepest condolences and heart-felt sympathies to his wife, Carrissa, and his mother, Queen. There are no words to ease their sorrow, but I hope they find some comfort in knowing just how deeply he will be missed and how greatly all those fortunate enough to have known him will strive to honor his memory.

HONORING WILL MITCHELL’S
SERVICE AS LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Will Mitchell for 4 years and 2 Congresses as my Legislative Director.

Will has been a dedicated public servant and legislative staffer to the state of Minnesota for a decade now, previously serving for Congressman Rick Nolan for Will’s own hometown district and Duluth, Minnesota.

His expertise on energy and environmental policy helped us enact the Local Water Protection Act during the 117th Congress. He has been instrumental in forming my office as a first-term Member to now a returning Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Not only that, Will has been a jack of all trades, working in areas of Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, Tax, Financial Services and so many different policies.

I am grateful for Will’s tireless advocacy for local communities in my district, spearheading our offices efforts to secure over \$40 million in funding for Community Projects. He helped navigate my legislative portfolio through the pandemic, but also constantly stay on top of the issues impacting working families in Minnesota’s Second District.

It has also been a joy watching Will and Sacha’s family grow—with 2 young boys, Cal and Charlie, joining us all during his time in my office.

I’ve appreciated Will’s advice and counsel over the years and wish him the best in his new adventure off the Hill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to physically record my vote on Ocasio-Cortez No. 73 amendment to H.R. 21. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 69.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTER FOR TRANSFORMING LIVES

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Center for Transforming Lives.

Whereas in 1907, the Center for Transforming Lives, (formerly the YWCA of Tarrant County) was founded by Fort Worth women as the first YWCA to serve local low-income women. Early services included housing, employment support and social activities.

Whereas in the 1920s, the Center for Transforming Lives founded the local United Way, as well as the local chapters of USO and Red Cross.

Whereas in the 1950s, the Center for Transforming Lives expanded services throughout Fort Worth, as well as Arlington and Parker County.

Whereas in 2013, the Center for Transforming Lives underwent a strategic plan that indicated that further expansion was needed to disrupt the cycle of poverty for women and children. As such, an increase was made in families serviced by homeless services, early childhood education and economic mobility services were added.

Whereas in 2017, the Center for Transforming Lives became a safety net for more than 3,000 women and children in Tarrant County annually.

Whereas in the early 2020s, the Center for Transforming Lives doubled the number of children served annually.

Whereas in 2022, the Center for Transforming Lives is celebrating its 115th anniversary.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we recognize the important work of the Center for Transforming Lives in disrupting the cycle of poverty and moving women and children to a place of prosperity.

HONORING THE 33RD ANNUAL
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 38th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and the cornerstone of the event, the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest, hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Each year, the members of the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated invite community members to gather on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to celebrate and reflect upon his life and his legacy. The pinnacle of this event has become the Youth Oratorical Contest, which brings together students in grades 6 through 12 for a public speaking competition to honor and sustain Dr. King’s spirit of optimism, public service, racial harmony, and human rights through the voices of youth.

Dr. King had a vision for what our United States of America should be and worked tirelessly towards making it a reality. Our country still faces obstacles that Dr. King fought to remove, and we must commit ourselves to realizing his vision: “the creation of the Beloved Community.”

Dr. King’s words continue to inspire our youth, who carry on his legacy and prepare to become the future leaders of our country. Participants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King with their ability to communicate with passion and clarity, just as he did. This year, the competition challenged students to deliver speeches addressing the theme, “A View of the Promised Land”—inspired by Dr. King’s “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” speech that he delivered on April 3, 1968—the night before he was assassinated.

Six Virginia students presented their reflections on Dr. King’s legacy, and they eloquently demonstrated how his words empower them.

I congratulate the following finalists and commend them for their participation in the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

Sakshi Gowda—Reagan Middle School
Kiomi Ninasume—Gainesville Middle School

Alyssa M. Godfrey—Benton Middle School
Brooklynn Saunders—Gar-Field High School
Myles Lanier—Manassas Park High School
Shavonne Davis—Patriot High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for showcasing the power of Dr. King's tireless commitment to equality and in congratulating the talented youth of the 2023 MLK Youth Oratorical Contest. Let us learn from our young people and consider how we might honor Dr. King's legacy by seeking justice in our own communities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTORING EQUAL AND ACCOUNTABLE LEGISLATORS IN THE HOUSE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Restoring Equal and Accountable Legislators in the House (REAL House) Act. This legislation would expand the number of members of the U.S. House of Representatives to restore the chamber's direct link to the public and foster greater diversity among Representatives and the Electoral College.

Members of the House of Representatives are their constituent's most direct connection to the federal government and its resources and services. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of the proactive and local constituent services unique to House members. However, the number of constituents living in a single congressional district has dramatically increased since the number of House members was arbitrarily capped in 1929. Current district sizes threaten the direct constituent connection on which the House was founded. Simply, congressional districts are too large.

Today, there are 435 voting members of the House of Representatives, a cap from when the U.S. population was only 122 million people. With the current U.S. population of 328 million people and the same number of representatives, the size of congressional districts has nearly tripled. The average congressional district now includes 800,000 constituents.

If Congress fails to act, by 2050 each member of Congress is on track to represent more than 1 million people.

This growing imbalance makes it more difficult for members to be responsive to the will of the people, and voters are more likely to sit out elections when their voice and input are not fully represented in government.

The artificial cap also has a more insidious effect: an unrepresentative Electoral College. In the Electoral College system, each state gets a certain number of electors based on its total number of representatives in Congress. As the disparity between the largest and smallest states widens, the votes of those in larger states matter less and less.

The REAL House Act will help our government better reflect our districts and constituent needs. To restore the House's direct link to the public and to foster greater diversity among Members and the Electoral College, we must increase the number of Representatives.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to enact this legislation and finally overcome the arbitrary cap of 435 voting members of this chamber.

RECOGNIZING THE ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the All Saints Catholic School of Dallas, Texas, for receiving its third Blue Ribbon award. All Saints Catholic is only one of 5 private schools in the great state of Texas to receive this prestigious award. We continue to extend our earnest congratulations to the students, educators, and families of All Saints Catholic.

Since 1982, the Department of Education has annually bestowed the Blue Ribbon Award to select public and private schools who have displayed outstanding academic progress and achievement. All Saints Catholic was one of the highest-performing schools in Texas and nationwide. Of the nearly 10,000 Blue Ribbons awarded over the past 4 decades, only 170 schools have had the honor of receiving 3 Blue Ribbons, putting All Saints Catholic in the top 1 percent of Blue Ribbon recipients.

All Saints Catholic's historic performances showcases the enduring work of its students, teachers, and staff to create a safe and welcoming school environment that focuses on success. I'm proud to represent such talented minds and I wish them the best of luck in their school year.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize the hard-earned academic accomplishments of All Saints Catholic and their efforts to prepare our youth for success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS POPULATION STABILIZATION ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Northern Mariana Islands Population Stabilization Act. The bill is intended to bolster our nation's strategic interests in the Western Pacific by maintaining the population and prosperity of the Marianas, the district I represent.

The Marianas is part of the chain of U.S. and U.S.-affiliated islands that faces Chinese expansion in the region. Through the Marianas, the U.S. controls an ocean area of 289,000 square miles, greater than the size of Texas.

Yet, the U.S. presence here is at risk. According to the 2020 decennial census the population of the Marianas declined by 12.2 percent since the 2010 census. This is the second largest decline among all states and non-state areas of our Nation over that 10-year period.

This population erosion—and the loss of economic viability that results—occurs against the backdrop of increased competition with China in the Western Pacific, a time when the United States needs to be strengthening our

position in the region, not shrinking in significance.

There are many reasons why people are leaving the Marianas. There are better public services and greater economic opportunity in the mainland United States. The anxiety stemming from the repeated and hyper-destructive typhoons associated with accelerating climate change also factors in the decision to leave. I refer Members to the article "People are fleeing Puerto Rico, Guam and every other U.S. territory. What gives?" in the Washington Post edition of September 23, 2022, for a discussion of population loss in all the U.S. insular areas. The article, "Perfect Storm. When is it time to abandon a place to climate change?" in Harpers Magazine's October 2022 edition tracks the decision of one family in the Marianas to leave their home to escape the impacts of climate change.

Population decline, whether in the islands or in rural areas of the continental United States, creates a negative feedback loop. Reduced tax revenues limit the ability of local governments to improve services. And the reduced consumer base and labor pool throttle business. You can see this affect in the drop in Gross Domestic Product in the Marianas. GDP fell 11.2 percent in 2019, the most recent available data, a decline that would have been even more severe but for the COVID-related relief that Congress provided.

The Northern Mariana Islands Population Stabilization Act builds on several laws enacted during the Trump administration and on previous action by the House.

In the 116th Congress, we passed this same legislation by voice vote without dissent. It allows certain long-term foreign workers and investors already lawfully present in the islands to apply for permanent status in the Marianas-only. Previously, President Trump had approved USPL 115-218, defining these long-term workers, and signed USPL 116-24, creating the Marianas-only resident status.

The Marianas-only resident status that President Trump sanctioned provides no eligibility for public assistance. It bars entry into any other part of the United States except for purpose of transit through Guam to a non-U.S. destination. The status President Trump approved is revocable in case of communicable disease, criminal conviction, or terrorist activity.

Making this Marianas-only status available simply encourages continued residence and employment by people already lawfully present and gainfully employed; and doing so would help to stabilize the population in our islands.

After the House approved the legislation I have introduced today in the 116th Congress, the Senate took no action. In the intervening years, the population eligible for Marianas-only status—which by definition cannot increase—has shrunk from 2,600 to 1,600, underscoring the continuing flight and the urgent need for us to act.

In this time of heightened concern about spending, I do want to remind the House that the Congressional Budget Office determined in 2019 this legislation has negligible effect on direct spending. That assessment must remain the same in 2023, as the number of affected individuals has only declined.

I ask all Members to support this simple, straightforward response to the problem of population loss in the Marianas. It is not a

total solution, but acknowledgement a problem exists and must be addressed.

I ask, too, that Members see the Northern Mariana Islands Population Stabilization Act as an important component of our larger national response to the continuing Chinese expansion occurring throughout the Pacific.

**RECOGNIZING ARYA HARIHARAN
AND HER SERVICE TO THE
HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2023

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Arya Hariharan for her service to the House Judiciary Committee and to honor her unwavering commitment to a vision of America that is safer, freer, and more just.

Arya's early career prepared her well for her time on the Committee. She attended American University, where she played Division I varsity women's soccer and received a Presidential Merit Scholarship. She also graduated from the William & Mary School of Law, where she was the executive editor of the Environmental Law & Policy Review and the founding editor of the Business Law Review. After passing the bar, she worked for several nonprofit organizations dedicated to education and economic mobility, access to the justice system, and environmental preservation.

Arya came to Capitol Hill in 2015 and served as Representative HANK JOHNSON's Legislative Director and Senior Legislative Counsel. In that role, she managed Mr. JOHNSON's policy agenda and prepared him for his work on the House Judiciary, House Armed Services, and House Transportation and Infrastructure Committees. In those early years on the Hill, she also began to develop a reputation as a fiercely loyal friend and counsel—protecting her coworkers and her Member from any threat, willing to take on any challenge in service of the larger cause.

In 2017, as we settled in for what would be a years-long fight with an Administration that would challenge the Congress on a daily basis, the Democratic staff of the House Judiciary Committee had an opportunity to bring in some help. There was really only one choice. Arya joined us that year as Democratic Oversight Counsel—and perhaps it was only then that the battle was well and truly joined.

In her position as Oversight Counsel and, later, as Chief Oversight Counsel, Arya oversaw our response to a rogue and often lawless Presidency, crafting our reaction to each new instance of abuse, obstruction, and public corruption. She helped to hold a sitting Attorney General in contempt of Congress. She was instrumental in the first and second impeachments of President Donald J. Trump. Throughout those long, difficult years, Arya could almost always be found in the heart of the fight, managing the staff, preparing the Members for battle, and holding us all to the highest possible standards. Arya never, ever enters our hearing room unprepared.

Arya's competence and confidence have been key assets to the Committee. Her oversight team has helped to prepare the ground for hearings on almost every topic we cover. She has worked on domestic and foreign sur-

veillance, domestic terrorism, sexual violence, gun violence, hate crimes, and cybersecurity, just to name a few of the many subjects she has handled in her time with us. She has helped to prepare nearly every sensitive witness to appear before the Committee in the past 5 years. Her ability to tell a story through a congressional hearing is unparalleled.

Mr. Speaker, if you had only seen Arya locked in argument with an uncooperative witness or firmly correcting a staffer from across the aisle for some breach of protocol, you might be forgiven for thinking that Arya has an edge. And, make no mistake, she is one of the toughest people to sit in the counsel's chair in the two-century history of our Committee. But what you might miss, if you only saw her in the heat of battle, is a person deeply respected by the Members of this body and beloved by her friends and colleagues. There is no one I would rather have by my side in a fight than Arya Hariharan.

Arya is leaving us for the Senate Judiciary Committee, where she will advance their oversight agenda. We thank Arya for her tireless service to the House Judiciary Committee, and we advise Senator DURBIN to keep the candy drawer well stocked for the late nights ahead.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 1

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on trade and horticulture.

SR-328A

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SVC-217

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-418

FEBRUARY 2

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the Department of the Energy's implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Daniel J. Calabretta, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Tiffany M. Cartwright, and Jamal N. Whitehead, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, and Natasha C. Merle, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Jessica G. L. Clarke, and Dale E. Ho, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Matthew L. Garcia, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Margaret R. Guzman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Lindsay C. Jenkins, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Kenly Kiya Kato, and Hernan D. Vera, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Gina R. Mendez-Miro, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, Adrienne C. Nelson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Ana C. Reyes, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Jamar K. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, and Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of

Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney
General, both of the Department of
Justice.

FEBRUARY 9

SH-216 10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
sources
To hold hearings to examine the state of
the U.S. Territories.

SD-366

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S137–S152

Measures Introduced: Twenty-seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 128–154, and S. Res. 19. **Pages S146–47**

Appointments:

Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public law 93–642, appointed the following Senator to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: Senator Moran. **Page S151**

Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d-276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 118th Congress: Senator Crapo. **Page S151**

Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to the provisions of 20 U.S.C., sections 42 and 43, re-appointed the following Senator as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Senator Boozman. **Page S151**

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106–286, appointed the following Member to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Senator Merkley (Co-Chairman). **Page S151**

Falk Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Joseph Lee Falk, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Di-

rectors of the United States Institute of Peace; that there be 10 minutes for debate equally divided in the usual form on the nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, without intervening action or debate; and that if the nomination is not confirmed, all action with respect to the nominations of Joseph Lee Falk, and Roger Israel Zakheim, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace, be vitiated. **Page S141**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. EX. 3), Roger Israel Zakheim, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term of four years. **Pages S141–42**

Messages from the House: **Page S145**

Measures Referred: **Page S145**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S145**

Executive Communications: **Pages S145–46**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S147–48**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S148–51**

Additional Statements: **Pages S144–45**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—3) **Page S142**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:40 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S151.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 24 public bills, H.R. 617–640; 1 private bill, H.R. 641; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 70–74, were introduced.

Pages H509–10

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H511–12

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:12 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H494

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Page H494

Recess: The House recessed at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

Page H495

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Commercial Remote Sensing Amendment Act of 2023: H.R. 290, to provide for transparent licensing of commercial remote sensing systems; Pages H495–96

Cost-Share Accountability Act of 2023: H.R. 342, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require reporting relating to certain cost-share requirements;

Pages H496–98

Financial Exploitation Prevention Act of 2023: H.R. 500, to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to postpone the date of payment or satisfaction upon redemption of certain securities in the case of the financial exploitation of specified adults, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 94;

Pages H498–501, H505

Credit Union Board Modernization Act: H.R. 582, to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings; and

Pages H501–02

Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act: H.R. 298, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses.

Pages H502–04

Recess: The House recessed at 5:35 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Pages H504–05

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 70, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives.

Pages H505–06

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 71, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives.

Page H506

United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly—Appointment: The Chair an-

nounced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Representatives Guthrie, Dunn (FL), Bergman, Wagner, Fitzpatrick, and McCormick.

Page H506

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on page H505.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress.

RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON MARCH 13, 2020; SHOW UP ACT; PANDEMIC IS OVER ACT; FREEDOM FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.J. Res. 7, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020; H.R. 139, the “SHOW UP Act”; H.R. 382, the “Pandemic is Over Act”; and H.R. 497, the “Freedom for Health Care Workers Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 7, Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020, H.R. 139, the “SHOW UP Act of 2023”, H.R. 382, the “Pandemic is Over Act”, and H.R. 497, the “Freedom for Health Care Workers Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 7, Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 139, the “SHOW UP Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points

of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 382, the “Pandemic is Over Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 497, the “Freedom for Health Care Workers Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Comer, Chairman Rodgers of Washington, Chairman Graves of Missouri, and Representatives Raskin, Pallone, and Larsen of Washington.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “American Energy Expansion: Strengthening Economic, Environmental, and National Security”, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 11 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H. Con. Res. 9, denouncing the horrors of socialism, 2 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of January 31 through February 3, 2023

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will be in a period of morning business.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: February 1, to hold hearings to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on trade and horticulture, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: February 2, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: February 2, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the Department of the Energy’s implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: February 1, organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on the Judiciary: February 2, business meeting to consider the nominations of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Daniel J. Calabretta, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, Tiffany M. Cartwright, and Jamal N. Whitehead, both to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, and Natasha C. Merle, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Jessica G. L. Clarke, and Dale E. Ho, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Matthew L. Garcia, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Margaret R. Guzman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Lindsay C. Jenkins, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Kenly Kiya Kato, and

Hernan D. Vera, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Gina R. Mendez-Miro, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, Adrienne C. Nelson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, Ana C. Reyes, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Jamar K. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, and Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: February 1, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 3 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: January 31, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

February 1, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, February 2, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, February 1, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Lives Worth Living: Addressing the Fentanyl Crisis, Protecting Critical

Lifelines, and Combatting Discrimination Against Those with Disabilities", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 1, Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled "Economic Danger Zone: How America Competes to Win the Future Versus China", 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

February 1, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Challenges and Opportunities to Investigating the Origins of Pandemics and Other Biological Events", 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

February 2, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Launching Into the State of the Satellite Marketplace", 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, February 1, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 1 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, February 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Biden Border Crisis: Part I", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, February 1, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, February 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Federal Pandemic Spending: A Prescription for Waste, Fraud and Abuse", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, February 1, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

February 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The State of Transportation Infrastructure and Supply Chain Challenges", 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 31

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 497—Freedom for Health Care Workers Act. Consideration of H.R. 382—Pandemic is Over Act.

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Congressional Record

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